FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 MARCH 1984

Lebanon

National Dialogue Conference — President Amin al-Jumayyil, in his opening speech to the Lausanne conference broadcast live by Beirut radio, called on the conferees to endorse "the concrete termination of the state of war and abidance by the cease-fire in an immediate, firm, comprehensive, and final manner." They should also agree on measures to promote Lebanon's unification and liberation, develop ways to facilitate understanding about reform plans, and approve the formation of a "national unity and salvation government," he added. Al-Jumayyil said he is "very confident" that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will throw "all his weight" behind helping Lebanon reach health and stability.

The conferees subsequently agreed on the need for an immediate and comprehensive cease-fire and decided to authorize the Security Arrangements Committee to meet in Beirut to supervise the cease-fire and assess the possibility of disengaging the hostile forces and reopening crossing points, the port, and the airport, Beirut radio reported. The Dialogue Conference also formed a committee to supervise the cease-fire agreement comprising representatives of the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), the Phalange Party, the National Liberal Party, and the Lebanese Army, as well as Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri.

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Lausanne later, telling journalists he could not attend the opening session for reasons beyond his control, Damascus radio reported. Khaddam attended the second session, which began in camera on 13 March, Beirut radio noted.

Security Situation — While the conferees in Lausanne were calling for a cease-fire, the security situation in the capital deteriorated and shellfire caused more destruction, Beirut radio reported. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio accused the Phalangists of indiscriminately shelling residential areas, killing 24 people and wounding 50 others. However, a Lebanese Forces statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio said its artillery was responding to shelling of residential areas in East Beirut by newly established PSP artillery emplacements in the western sector. The security situation remained "shaky" the following morning as intermittent clashes continued, the Voice of Lebanon said.

Tannus Resignation — Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus and several other senior officers have submitted their resignations to President al-Jumayyil in order to facilitate the negotiations in Lausanne, AFP reported citing Beirut press reports.

IDF in South — The IDF deployment in southern Lebanon will be determined by Israel's security needs and will change only if circumstances change, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. The IDF spokesman subsequently announced that two IDF soldiers were wounded by gunfire near the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp near Sidon, according to the radio. Beirut radio said Israeli forces arrested over 100 inhabitants of the camp after its occupants resisted a raid by armed Israelis.

Syria

President al-Asad held further talks with CPSU Politburo member Geydar Aliyev and the two sides' viewpoints were "identical," Damascus radio reported. Aliyev expressed the USSR's full support for Syria and its interest in developing bilateral relations and cooperation in all fields. Linking the successful abrogation of the 17 May agreement with the Syrian leadership's principled and firm stand, he added that Al-Asad "personally deserves all the credit for realizing that triumph."

Iran-Iraq War

Military Developments — Iraqi forces killed a total of 1,157 Iranians in battles which erupted in areas of the operational sector east of Basra, the military communique carried by INA on 12 March announced. It also reiterated earlier claims that Iraqi units had successfully repulsed a new Iranian offensive in a "fierce" dawn battle. However, Iran claimed to have killed more than 150 Iraqis and wounded a number of others in an advance into Iraqi territory in the Khaybar operational zone near Talayeh, Tehran radio stated. The Iranian units then reinforced their defensive lines and the "newly occupied positions" in this operational sector, the radio added. Iranian forces also succeeded in pushing back Iraqi units which had intended to attack Iranian positions in the Val-Fajr V operational sector, Tehran radio reported.

There are "strong indications" the Iraqis will "go as far as attacking" Iranian residential areas with "chemical explosives," a spokesman for the Iranian Defense Council's War Information Headquarters said in remarks reported by IRNA. Noting recent Iraqi losses, the spokesman said Iraq would try "any means" to halt the Iranian advance. According to another IRNA report, nearly 1,700 Iranians have so far fallen victim to Iraqi chemical weapons.

Arab Conference — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Baghdad on 13 March to participate in the Arab foreign ministers emergency meeting, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported. Lebanon will be among those participating in the session, INA announced. In two preliminary meetings on 12 March, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz received his Jordanian counterpart and the PLO delegation to discuss issues related to the conference, Baghdad radio said.

Iran

All of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's appointments scheduled for 17 March-7 April have been canceled because of the Iranian New Year period, Tehran radio reported citing a statement issued by Khomeyni's office on 12 March.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived in Algiers on 11 March for an official 3-day visit at the invitation of his Algerian counterpart, Algiers radio announced. He will hold talks with Algerian officials on bilateral relations as well as regional issues and international problems, the radio added.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Riyadh on 12 March, Riyadh radio announced. The Cairo paper *AL-AHRAM* reported earlier that 'Arafat is scheduled to visit Cairo on 30 March to attend the AAPSO conference, although 'Arafat has said he will seek the PLO Executive Committee's approval for the visit.

Libya

Protest to Britain — The Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison delivered a "strongly worded" protest to the British Government over the arrest of 23 Libyan citizens by British authorities on 12 March, JANA announced. The committee considers the action "conducive to the destruction" of relations between the two countries. It asserted that such "acts of provocation" mean that Britain sides with the enemies of Libya and as such will be met "with the necessary measures," JANA added.

Military Training Amended — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in a 12 March speech reported by Tripoli radio, announced that military training will be "mandatory" for all healthy Libyans, thus rescinding an earlier decision to end military training for women.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT** CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 050 *13 March 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

VOP on 'Arafat Press Conference in Amman .... A 1
Baghdad PLO Radio Views Lausanne Conference .... A 1
Attacks Against IDF Reported in Lebanon .... A 2
    Suhmur Attack Kills Two *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* .... A 2
    IDF Officers Injured in Sidon *[Aden VOP]* .... A 2
    Attack Near Jwayya *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* .... A 2
Baghdad VOP Reports Attack on IDF Patrol in Gaza .... A 3
PLO's Al-Wazir To Meet Jordan Official in Algeria *[Amman AD-DUSTUR 12 Mar]* .... A 3
PLO's As-Surani Leaves For Tunis 11 Mar *[Amman AD-DUSTUR 12 Mar]* .... A 3
Arab League Official Regrets Mubarak Statement *[KUNA]* .... A 3
Lebanon, Algeria To Attend Arab Meeting in Iraq *[INA]* .... A 3
    Report on Algerian Envoy *[INA]* .... A 3

OPEC AFFAIRS

OPEC Meeting: No Change in Oil Price, Quotas *[Vienna DIE PRESSE 10-11 ar]* .... B 1
Nigeria Determined To Adhere to OPEC Policies *[Lagos]* .... B 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

Qatari Minister on GCC Support for Iraq .... C 1

BAHRAIN

Tunisian Cooperation Minister Visits for Talks .... C 1
    Amir Receives Minister .... C 1
    Prime Minister Receives Visitor .... C 1
Information Minister Comments on Iran-Iraq War .... C 1

PDRY

YSP Chairman Receives Soviet Message .... C 2
YSP Cables Cypriot Socialist Party Conference .... C 2

QATAR

French Minister Cresson Visits for Talks .... C 2
    Joint Committee Meetings Open .... C 2
    Committee Meetings Conclude .... C 3
    Amir Receives Mitterrand Message .... C 3
    Cresson Departs for Cairo .... C 3

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives PLO's 'Arafat 13 March .... C 3
Foreign Minister on Abrogation of 17 May Accord *[AL-YAWM 8 Mar]* .... C 3
France's Cresson Comments on Cooperation Talks .... C 4
French Air Force Chief Arrives for Visit .... C 4

- Former U.S. President Ford Arrives in Dhahran ..... C 4

UAE

- Bangladesh Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit ..... C 4
  - Foreign Minister Receives Visitor ..... C 4
- AL-KHALIJ Warns Against Foreign Interference ..... C 4

YAR

- Foreign Minister Leaves for Baghdad Conference ..... C 5

EGYPT

- More Reportage on Visit of Greek President ..... D 1
  - Mubarak Meets Karamanlis 12 Mar ..... D 1
  - Mubarak Banquet Speech ..... D 1
  - Karamanlis Reply ..... D 3
- Reportage on Upcoming Palestine Conference ..... D 4
  - Mubarak Invited To Open Session ..... D 4
  - 'Arafat Due To Attend *[AL-AHRAM 11 Mar]* ..... D 4
- Parliamentary Team Leaves for Afro-Arab Meeting ..... D 4
- University Students Stage Demonstration *[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 9 Mar]* ..... D 4
- AL-AKHBAR Says Libya Holding Egyptian Sailors ..... D 5
- AL-AHRAM on Libyan Support for Sudanese Rebels *[7 Mar]* ..... D 5
- Commentary on Lebanese Talks, U.S. Strategy ..... D 5

IRAQ

- Armed Forces Issues Communique No 1,402 — 12 March ..... E 1
- Arab League's Klibi Arrives, Makes Statement ..... E 1
- Daily on Arab Foreign Ministers Conference ..... E 1
- UN Circulates Foreign Minister's Letter ..... E 2
- Tariq 'Aziz Meets Jordanian, Palestinian Officials ..... E 2
- Talks Begin With Hungarian Interior Minister ..... E 2
- USSR's Yakov Ryabov Praises Economic Ties ..... E 2
- USSR Official Praises Oil Nationalization ..... E 2
- Clandestine Radio Exhorts Iranian Arabs *[Voice of Al-Ahvaz Revolution]* ..... E 3
- Kurdish Guerrillas Attack Government Truck *[Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan]* ..... E 3
- Kurdish Radio: Government Executes 25 Soldiers ..... E 3
- Kurdish Guerrillas Attack Ba'thist Office in Zakhu *[Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan]* ..... E 3

JORDAN

- Continued Reportage on PRC President's Visit ..... F 1
  - Husayn, Li Xiannian Return to Amman ..... F 1
  - Gong Dafei Press Conference ..... F 1
  - AD-DUSTUR on Press Conference *[13 Mar]* ..... F 1
  - Aqaba Fertilizer Factory Visit ..... F 1
  - Lin Jiamei Visits Aqaba Hospital ..... F 1
  - Crown Prince Hosts Dinner ..... F 2
  - Daily on Significance of Visit ..... F 2
  - Commentary on Importance of Visit ..... F 2
- Article Criticizes U.S. Middle East Policy *[Amman JORDAN TIMES 13 Mar]* ..... F 3
- AR-RA'Y on Phalangist 'Designs' Against Dialogue ..... F 4

LEBANON

- More on National Reconciliation Conference ..... G 1
  - Al-Jumayyil Opening Address ..... G 1
  - Opening Statements Noted ..... G 2

    - Syria's Khaddam Arrives 12 Mar .... G 4
    - Khaddam Meets Al-Jumayyil *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* .... G 4
    - Second Session Convenes .... G 4
- More on Cease-Fire Negotiations, Reaction .... G 5
    - Salam On Cease-Fire Importance .... G 5
    - Security Committee Composition .... G 6
    - Airport Reopening Controversy *[Radio Free Lebanon]* .... G 6
    - Lebanese Forces on Cease-Fire *[Radio Free Lebanon]* .... G 6
    - Lebanese Forces on Committee .... G 6
- More Reportage on Opposition Statements, Policies .... G 7
    - Junblatt Calls for Al-Jumayyil Trial *[Voice of the Mountain]* .... G 7
    - PSP on Army Resignations *[Voice of the Mountain]* .... G 7
    - Karami On Talks *[KUNA]* .... G 7
    - Karami: Mubarak Policy 'Useful' *[MENA]* .... G 7
- Reportage on Contacts on Conference Sidelines .... G 8
    - P. al-Jumayyil, Sham'un Meet French Envoy *[Radio Free Lebanon]* .... G 8
    - Saudi Minister Meets Salam *[SPA]* .... G 8
- RFL on Civil Complaints Against Junblatt .... G 8
- Correspondent Views Al-Jumayyil's Syria Visit .... G 8
- IDF Detains Palestinians in Al-Hulwah Camp .... G 9

SYRIA

- More on Soviet Politburo Member's Visit, Reaction .... H 1
    - Al-Asad, Aliyev Resume Talks .... H 1
    - Aliyev Departs 13 Mar .... H 1
    - Syrian-USSR Friendship Viewed .... H 1
    - AL-BA'TH Praises Relations .... H 2
- More on Visit of USSR Central Committee Member .... H 2
    - Tereshkova Holds Press Conference .... H 2
    - Departs 13 Mar .... H 3
- USSR Judicial Delegation Arrives 12 Mar .... H 3
- LE MONDE: President al-Asad 'Consolidates Power' .... H 3
- Az-Zu'bi Cables Al-Asad on March Revolution .... H 4
- Khaddam Leaves For Lausanne Conference 12 Mar .... H 4
- AL-BA'TH on Attempts To Foil Lausanne Conference .... H 4
- Communists Welcome Abrogation of 17 May Agreement *[TISHRIN 6 Mar]* .... H 4
- Damascus Radio Calls on Egypt To Emulate Lebanon .... H 5
- Palestine Broadcast on 'Arafat Visit To Amman .... H 5

ISRAEL

- Shamir Reports to Knesset on IDF Redeployment .... I 1
    - Shamir, Peres Comment .... I 1
    - Further on Peres Speech .... I 1
    - Shamir Remarks on Jordan *[THE JERUSALEM POST 13 Mar]* .... I 1
- Shamir Meets French Minister Fabius 12 March .... I 2
- Rosenne Comments on Relations With Egypt .... I 2
- Tourism Minister on Egyptian Agreement Violations .... I 2
- Minister Pat Interviewed on Egyptian Talks .... I 3
    - Pat Returns From Egypt .... I 3
- Israeli Reportedly Meets With Junblatt in Geneva *[MA'ARIV 12 Mar]* .... I 3
    - Geneva Spokesman Denies Meeting .... I 4
- David Levi on Political, Government Affairs *[MA'ARIV 9 Mar]* .... I 4
    - Levi Interview With Schiffer .... I 6
- Jerusalem Arabic on Redeployment in Lebanon .... I 7
- BAMAHANE Editor Dismissed After Criticism of War *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 11 Mar]* .... I 8
    - Defense Ministry Clarification *['AL HAMISHMAR 12 Mar]* .... I 8
- Another Suspect Arrested in Ramallah Bus Attack .... I 8
- Rise Reported in Hostile Acts Among Galilee Arabs *[DAVAR 13 Mar]* .... I 8
- Two IDF Soldiers Wounded in South Lebanon .... I 8

Terrorist From Lebanon Planted Jerusalem Bomb .... I 8

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

ECA Official Says African Monetary Fund Set for 1986 *[NAN]* .... P 1
International Labor Meeting Condemns World Recession *[AFP]* .... P 1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Iran's Velayati Continues Algiers Visit *[IRNA]* .... Q 1
Arrival Statement Reported .... Q 1
Velayati Visit Praised .... Q 1

LIBYA

'Strong Protest' Note Given to UK Over Arrests .... Q 1
JANA Reports Sudanese Liberation Front Statement .... Q 1
Malagasy Foreign Minister Holds Tripoli Talks .... Q 2

MOROCCO

Hassan Message to OAU Chairman Reported .... Q 2

SUDAN

Italy's Andreotti Concludes Official Visit .... Q 3
Bilateral Talks Held .... Q 3
Andreotti Meets With Numayri *[ANSA]* .... Q 3
Andreotti Issues Statement, Departs .... Q 4
President Numayri Returns From Egypt Visit .... Q 4

TUNISIA

Former Interior Minister Charged With Treason .... Q 4
President Bourguiba Receives Finland's Sorsa .... Q 5
Publication of Opposition Weekly Suspended .... Q 5

WESTERN SAHARA

Communique Criticizes Morocco's Refusal of Talks .... Q 5

EAST AFRICA

DJIBOUTI

Kenyan Foreign Minister Brings Moi Note to Hassan *[KNA]* .... R 1

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Holds Talks With Soviet Planning Official .... R 1
Somali Refugees Tell of Siad Barre's Oppression .... R 1
Sudanese Rebels Release Kidnapped FRG Woman .... R 1

SOMALIA

Defense Ministry Reports Ethiopian Attacks 12 Mar .... R 1
Delegation Leaves for Tunis, Algiers Talks .... R 2
DFSS Delegation Returns From Middle East Tour *[Radio Halgan]* .... R 2
DFSS Military Operation Depicted *[Radio Halgan]* .... R 2

TANZANIA

President Nyerere Flies to Maputo for Official Visit .... R 2
Nyerere Receives Message From Lesotho's Jonathan .... R 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Presidential Communique on 'Just Verdict' of Trial *[PANA]* .... S 1

GABON

Bongo, Sekou Toure Attend PDG Anniversary Fete *[Africa No 1]* .... S 1

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

President Kerekou Supports DPRK Tripartite Proposal .... T 1
Kerekou Receives Kampuchean Minister Ieng Sary .... T 1

GHANA

Two Frolinat Delegations Meet With Asamoah .... T 1
Government Launches 1984 Population Census .... T 1

GUINEA

$10 Million Loan Agreement Signed With Saudi Arabia .... T 1

GUINEA-BISSAU

Prime Minister Saude Maria Fired for 'Ambition' *[Lisbon]* .... T 2

IVORY COAST

Regional Strife Continues To Prevent OAU Unity *[IVOIRE DIMANCHE 11 Mar]* .... T 2

MALI

SWAPO, ANC Representatives Give Press Conference .... T 2
Second Stage of Development Project To Begin .... T 3

NIGER

Kountche on Fight Against Misappropriation of Funds .... T 3

NIGERIA

Idiagbon Cautions Army on 'Rumor-Mongering' .... T 3
Buhari Receives Departing Vatican Envoy 9 Mar .... T 3
Ex-Politicians Seen Viewing Takeover Move Seriously .... T 3
Demonstrators in London Show Support for FMG .... T 3
Border Problem With Cameroon Requires Resolution .... T 3

UPPER VOLTA

Trial of Three Ex-Officials Ends in Acquittal .... T 4
Journalists Reject 'Puppet' Status, Demand 'Respect' .... T 4

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Foreign Ministry: Namibia Talks Require UN Framework .... U 1
President dos Santos Reportedly To Visit Cuba *[Lisbon]* .... U 1
Defense Minister's Speech Closes Party Seminar .... U 1
RSA Urged To Discuss Cease-Fire With SWAPO .... U 2
UNITA Communique Details 21-26 Feb Actions *[Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel]* .... U 2

LESOTHO

Prime Minister Jonathan Meets With New British Envoy .... U 3
Jonathan Appeals to 'Neighbors' To Prevent Attacks .... U 4

MOZAMBIQUE

Branco: RSA Payment for Cahora Bassa 'Falls Short' .... U 4
Chissano Meets French Delegates; Other Talks Set .... U 4
Chissano Meets Brazil's Foreign Affairs Delegate .... U 4
Port, Railroad Group To Meet With RSA Counterparts .... U 4

NAMIBIA

Nujoma Cites Conditions for Conference With RSA *[Johannesburg]* .... U 5
New Peace Plan To Supplant UN Resolution Depicted *[Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES 11 Mar]* .... U 5
Police Report 2 SWAPO Terrorists Killed Near Omitara *[Johannesburg]* .... U 6
Multiparty Conference, Van Niekerk Begin Talks *[Johannesburg]* .... U 6
SWAPO Radio Rejects 'Time-Wasting Negotiations' *[Lusaka Voice of Namibia]* .... U 6

SOUTH AFRICA

Kaunda Ready To Host Botha, Frontline States Summit .... U 7
Trilateral Cahora Bassa Talks Resume in Cape Town .... U 7
ANC Claims Responsibility for Ermelo Explosion *[Umtata Capital Radio]* .... U 7
Koeberg Power Station in Final Licensing Stage .... U 7
Police Report 27 Killed in Natal Tribal Warfare *[Umtata Capital Radio]* .... U 8
Hart Interviewed on Proposed Policy Toward RSA *[RAND DAILY MAIL 10 Mar]* .... U 8
Southern African Corn Import Delays Anticipated *[RAND DAILY MAIL 9 Mar]* .... U 8

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Meets With 3-Man Soviet Delegation .... U 9
Mulemba Assesses Regional Talks .... U 9
UN Urged To Implement Resolution 435 on Namibia .... U 9

ZIMBABWE

Muzenda Says Government 'Shocked' by Mass Graves .... U 9
Foreign Minister Back From OAU Ministerial Meeting .... U 10
Minister Discloses Embezzlement by District Officers .... U 10
Kangai Says Country To Reduce Dependence on RSA .... U 10

VOP on 'Arafat Press Conference in Amman

JN121933 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar (Yasir 'Arafat] left Amman today following a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he held talks with King Husayn and high-ranking Jordanian officials.

In a press conference Abu 'Ammar held in Amman yesterday, he said that his talks with King Husayn and high-ranking Jordanian officials are a continuation of previous talks, which were aimed at drawing up a joint work plan and moves to confront the development of events. He added that his Amman talks also dealt with the developments in the situation in the occupied homeland and the Arab arena. They also dealt with Iraq's call for holding an urgent Arab foreign ministers'meeting in Baghdad. He also said that he had accepted the PRC president's invitation to visit Beijing at the earliest possible time.

Abu 'Ammar called for holding an Arab-African summit in order to confront Zionist infiltration in African countries. He added that a committee was formed under him in order to hold necessary contacts and make arrangements with various Palestinian revolutionary groups to set the date and venue of the PNC meeting. He noted that President Chadli Bendjedid had welcomed the convocation of the PNC session once again in Algiers. More details on the press conference are carried in the following recorded dispatch from our correspondent in Amman:

[Begin recording] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar answered the questions of Jordanian, Arab, and foreign journalists in a press conference held at the Holidy Inn hotel in Amman last evening. The questions and answers dealt with current developments, such as the Palestinian-Jordanian talks, the meeting with the PRC president, the work of the joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee to bolster the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied territories, the Iraqi-Iranian war, the developments in the Palestinian arena and relations with Arab countries.

Abu 'Ammar described his talks with King Husayn and Jordanian officials as constructive and fruitful. He explained that they dealt with various joint topics and the plan for unified action to confront the developments that the region is currently witnessing. Abu 'Ammar said that the situation in the occupied homeland was a predominant subject in these talks. Concerning the joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee's work on bolstering the steadfastness of the Palestinian people, he said that the work is going well, but reiterated that there are not enough funds, particularly since our kinfolk in the occupied homeland are currently paying 73 types of taxes in a place that has recorded the highest level of inflation in the world. He affirmed that a joint move to curb this shortage of funds will take place very soon.

Abu 'Ammar described his talks with the PRC president as being based on an old, friendly relationship. He said that the talks dealt with bilateral relations, the situation in the region and international developments. He added that the PRC president had expressed satisfaction with the developing Jordanian- Palestinian relationship. He said that he received a renewed invitation to visit Beijing, and expressed his hope that the visit would take place soon.

Answering a question about the developments in Lebanon's situation and the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Beirut, Abu 'Ammar said that these developments reflected the failure of U.S. policy in the region. He added that the volcano about which he spoke when the Palestinian revolution forces were leaving Beirut is still active in the region, and that it has not reached the point of explosion yet. He said that this volcano reached the White House, around which cement barriers were built. This volcano caused the downfall of Haig, Begin and Sharon. He emphasized that this volcano is currently affecting most of the developments in Lebanon and the region.

Abu 'Ammar also renewed his call for halting the Iraq-Iran war, particularly since the Iranians are determined to attack Iraqi territories.

Abu 'Ammar said that the PNC will convene soon, when the contacts between Palestinian groups and organizations which did not participate in the attack against the revolution, and our people's camps in Tripoli, are completed.

It is worth noting that Abu 'Ammar held a round of talks with Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat yesterday within the framework of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue that aims at coordinating efforts between the two sides within joint agreements. The discussion during these talks dealt with the details of this on both the Arab and international levels, as well as bolstering the steadfastness of our people in the occupied homeland.

On the Palestinian side, the meeting was attended by Brother Hamid Abu Sittah, member of the PLO Executive Committee, and Brother 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahyah, representative of the PLO Executive Committee in Amman. The meeting was also attended on the Jordanian side by Tahir al-Masri, minister of foreign affairs, and Shawkat Mahmud, minister of the occupied homeland affairs.

In another development, Abu 'Ammar received Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; 'Abd al-Majid Shuman, chairman of the Arab Bank board of directors; and Sulayman al-Hadidi, president of the Jordanian Lawyers Union. [end recording]

Baghdad PLO Radio Views Lausanne Conference

JN112020 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1632 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, the Lebanese reconciliation talks are scheduled to begin in Lausanne, Switzerland, tomorrow in the presence of the traditional Lebanese leaders and the Syrian foreign minister. It is known that this is the second round of talks within this framework, following the first round which was held in Geneva several months ago and which achieved no success. This second round is particularly based on a Syrian propaganda campaign that seeks to give the impression that the results of this round will be better than the previous round because of the achievement of the so-called victory regarding the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

What of this impression is true? What is the possibility of achieving a Lebanese reconciliation? Certainly, there is no difference over the fact that abrogating the Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. 17 May agreement was a positive move, because this abrogation has foiled any legitimacy concerning the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the results of this invasion. However, it is not easy to accept that abrogating the above agreement would provide fertile soil for the growth of Lebanese reconciliation and accord, which has been fragmented and disrupted. To be more specific, we must say that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the agreement which was the result of this invasion would only have taken place within the framework of known Arab policies in Lebanon and its surroundings.

These policies, both before and after the invasion, have dealt a blow both to the possibility of achieving a Lebanese reconciliation and to the concept of a unified Lebanese homeland. These policies affected the social, political and progressive development in Lebanon that is represented by the Lebanese nationalist movement. This development was the only means of surmounting the political sectarianism that has ruined the Lebanese society and homeland, and prevented the establishment of a new state. By entrenching the sectarian spirit and the sectarian social military structure at the expense of the possibility of establishing a modern Lebanese state, these Arab policies have entrenched the lines of fragmentation, partition, and destruction in Lebanon. In fact, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the 17 May agreement would only have taken place on this factional platform which found in the Zionist enemy a means of strengthening its stands toward its partitionist conflicts.

However, the abrogation of the agreement will not cancel the consequences of the Arab policies. Moreover, it will not remove sectarianism that is represented by warring armies and geographical areas of small interests, big guns, and abnormal alliances; nor will it cancel the consequences of the Israeli invasion that represents a form of occupation of southern Lebanon as well as balances of powers in Lebanon and the region. Therefore, it is not easy to accept that the traditional Lebanese leaders and the Syrian foreign minister will go to Lausanne to delete this long history of building Lebanese sectarianism and exploiting Lebanon in the bargaining market. Moreover, we must point out that most of those who are leaving for Lausanne have contributed in one way or another to the terrible action that led to what Lebanon is experiencing these days.

Perhaps, those who are leaving for Lausanne will search for small gains at the expense of the greater Lebanese homeland. Perhaps this is what Nabih Birri warned against when he said that if the Lausanne conference seeks to entrench the current partition, then the war in Lebanon will continue for another 100 years. We hope that the conferees will succeed not in entrenching the current Lebanese situation, but in surmounting the terrible problems to which they have contributed.

Attacks Against IDF Reported in Lebanon

Suhmur Attack Kills Two

JN101746 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Reports from Lebanon say that a state of panic prevails among the Zionist invasion forces in Lebanon in the wake of the heroic operation that the Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men carried out near the town of Suhmur, killing two Zionist soldiers and wounding others. Reports said that the Zionist invasion forces transported many reinforcements to the scene of the operation, and that the Zionist forces cordoned off the area and cut off all roads leading to it, starting from Al-Qir'awn Dam to Suhmur Barrier and the Qlayyah axis.

The invasion forces launched a large-scale search to find those who carried out the operation. They also imposed a curfew on the villages neighboring the town of Suhmur, and arrested scores of citizens. The Zionist helicopters participated in all the searches while other helicopters evacuated the casualties to the Zionist entity.

IDF Officers Injured in Sidon

GF092010 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Reports from occupied Palestine yesterday indicate that among those injured in the bold, armed attacks launched by the Lebanese national resistance in the Sidon region 2 days ago were two senior Zionist officers of the Zionist army command in the region of occupied Sidon. The reports said that one of the officers — one was a colonel and the other a captain — lost his sight. Two other Zionist soldiers died last night of wounds sustained during similar attacks carried out by the Lebanese national resistance last week.

Attack Near Jwayya

JN111751 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese national resistance men resumed their operations against the Zionist invasion forces in occupied southern Lebanon.

Resistance fighters attacked a Zionist military patrol on the main highway in Tyre, near Jwayya. Using machine guns and missiles, the group of resistance fighters destroyed the patrol and killed or wounded all its members. A Zionist spokesman acknowledged this attack, and said that one vehicle was slightly damaged. The spokesman said that the occupation forces immediately combed the scene of the operation to search for the attackers, who withdrew safely. The occupation forces arrested a number of citizens on the pretext of interrogating them.

Another group of resistance fighters attacked another patrol on the main road in Hasbayya in southern Lebanon. The group used machine guns and hand grenades in its attack, scoring direct hits.

No further details on the losses of the Zionist patrol are available due to the military cordon around the scene of the attack.

Baghdad VOP Reports Attack on IDF Patrol in Gaza

JN111744 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Our fighters operating inside the occupied homeland have carried out a new, daring operation against the Zionist occupation forces despite the enemy's various security measures and precautions. A group of our fighters attacked an Israeli military patrol as it passed along the main street of the occupied city of Gaza. The attack, which was carried out with incendiary bombs, wounded several Zionist soldiers.

A Zionist spokesman acknowledged this daring operation but, as usual, did not disclose its losses.

PLO's Al-Wazir To Meet Jordan Official in Algeria

JN121031 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 12 Mar 84 p 19

[Text] Amman — It has been learned that Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolutionary forces, will meet with Dr Jawad al-'Anani, Jordan's minister of industry and trade, in Algeria.

They will together form the delegation of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee for bolstering steadfastness that will tour the Arab countries seeking aid for the committee's fund.

PLO's As-Surani Leaves For Tunis 11 Mar

JN121023 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 12 Mar 84 p 19

[Text] Amman — PLO Executive Committee member Jamal as-Surani left Amman yesterday for Tunis. He had taken part in some of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, and in the Palestinian-PRC meeting.

Arab League Official Regrets Mubarak Statement

LD122117 Kuwait KUNA in English 2028 GMT 12 Mar 84

[By Nabil el-Baradi]

[Text] Tunis, March 12 (KUNA) — The Arab League Monday expressed regret over Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's statement Sunday expressing his country's "deep commitment to the Camp David accord and its unwillingness to return to the Arab League."

The assistant Arab League secretary general for political affairs, Adnan Umran, told KUNA that Mubarak's statement is regrettable since it means that Egypt's commitment to Israel could not be abrogated while its [words indistinct] can be scrapped.

"It is difficult to understand the meaning or importance of Egypt's returning to the league if it does not mean a clear commitment to the charter which forms the backbone of joint Arab endeavor," the Arab League official said. He expressed hope that Mubarak would review his statement, particularly when the Arab nation is keen on restoring Egypt into the Arab fold.

Umran further criticized an earlier statement by Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan 'Ali in which he shed doubt on the Arab League's accomplishments after it moved from Cairo to Tunis. The Arab official charged that 'Ali's conclusion was totally unfounded, and charged 'Ali with viewing matters through a narrow domestic viewpoint.

"Despite the fact that we valued Cairo's role when it hosted the Arab League, yet we would like to affirm that the league's performance after it moved to Tunis still deserved admiration and appreciation in spite of the difficult circumstances the Arab nation is currently passing through," Umran pointed out. He noted that the league's activities were purely pan-Arab without any bias to one country or another, "something which was established through the efforts of the secretary general and the Tunisian political stands, which do not become entangled in Arab polarizations, unlike the situation when the league was in Cairo."

Umran called on 'Ali to evaluate issues from an overall national view, and expressed confidence that the Egyptian people will restore their historic role as part of the Arab nation.

Lebanon, Algeria To Attend Arab Meeting in Iraq

JN130901 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Mar (INA) — It was learned here today that Lebanon will participate in the Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting, which will begin in Baghdad later today.

An Iraqi Foreign Ministry source told INA that the Lebanese ambassador in Baghdad has informed the ministry of this decision and that he will represent his country at the meeting.

Thus, the number of the Arab countries which have agreed to participate in the meeting is now 18.

Report on Algerian Envoy

JN121842 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1835 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 12 Mar (INA) — It was learned here this evening that Algeria will participate in the Arab Foreign Ministers' Conference to begin meetings here tomorrow.

An Iraqi Foreign Ministry source has told INA that the Algerian ambassador in Baghdad has communicated this Algerian decision to the Foreign Ministry. Algeria will be represented in the conference by its ambassador in Baghdad.

OPEC Meeting: No Change in Oil Price, Quotas

AU121252 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 10-11 Mar 84 p 8

[Special *DIE PRESSE* report by "JU"]

[Excerpts] Vienna — The international oil market has become moreconsolidated as compared to last year, but continues not to permit any increase in production quotas or prices. This was the assessment on which the oil ministers of Indonesia, Algeria, Veneyuela and the UAE agreed yesterday at a meeting of the OPEC Monitoring Committee in Vienna. Thus the current crude oil bench price of $29 per barrel and the OPEC production ceiling of 17.5 million tons per day are to remain unchanged in the near future.

According to Mani' Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE Petroleum Minister of the UAE [and chairman of the OPEC Monitoring Committee], the OPEC cartel is at present turning out 17.6 million barrels per day. As Al-'Utaybah declared at a press conference in Vienna yesterday, it was primarily the economic upswing in the United States and the extremely cold winter in North America which led to a slight increase in demand and thus to a consolidation of the market. Al-'Utaybah: "We are now far away from price struggles and official price reductions similar to what we had last year."

He added, however, that the wish of some member countries for an increase of their national production quotas could only be fulfilled if the world market permitted an increase of the overall OPEC production quota; this would certainly not be the case in the first half of this year. The bloody Gulf war between Iran and Iraq has thus far not affected the oil market at all, in Al-'Utaybah's opinion, but the minister refused to comment on the question which precautionary measures have been taken or will be taken by the Arab Gulf states in the event of a potential blockade of the Straits of Hormuz.

t The OPEC Monitoring Committee willhold its next meeting as early as next month, on 17 April, in Abu Dhabi. The next OPEC ministers conference is to be held in July, probably in Vienna.

Nigeria Determined To Adhere to OPEC Policies

AB110915 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Nigeria has reiterated her determination to adhere to all policies and agreements of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC. The minister of petroleum and energy, Prof Tam David-West, stated this at the four-nation market-management committee of the organization which met in Vienna, Austria, to review the state of the world oil market.

He reiterated Nigeria's happiness to be a member of an international organization like OPEC, which is out to work for the benefit of all. Professor David-West advised the organization not to take any action that could create panic in the world oil market. This is because in such a situation OPEC member states are usually the losers while the industrialized nations are the beneficiaries.

Earlier, the oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, Dr Mani al-'Utaybah, said that OPEC ministers now felt even closer to Nigeria because the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, was their former colleague.

The management committee, which is to meet again in Abu Dhabi next month, has recommended the maintenance of current OPEC pricing and production agreements.

GULF AFFAIRS

Qatari Minister on GCC Support for Iraq

LD121107 Kuwait KUNA in English 1003 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Kuwait, March 12 (KUNA) — The Kuwait deputy premier and foreign and information minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, returned home before dawn on Monday after attending the two-day conference at Riyadh for the Gulf Cooperation Council's foreign ministers.

Shaykh Sabah told reporters at the airport that the Iran-Iraq war dominated the Riyadh meeting, but added that the conferees had discussed all items on the meeting's agenda. He said, in view of the recent dangerous escalation, the GCC foreign ministers had agreed to take part in a conference for Arab foreign ministers called by Iraq and due to open Tuesday in Baghdad, to discuss the perils of the Gulf war on the region. Shaykh Sabah was hopeful that the upcoming ministerial conference will embody Arab solidarity at a time when "all efforts should be incorporated apart from discordant views."

The GCC ministers discussed also steps to implement the joint economic pact between countries of the regional body, the diplomat said.

After the closing session Sunday night, the conference chairman, Qatar's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayif Al Thani, voiced the GCC's support for Iraq, saying this stand was in line with an Arab summit resolution [words indistinct] support for any Arab people facing aggression. The 22 members of the Arab League are parties to a joint defense pact. Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani said: "We are going to Baghdad (where the pan-Arab ministerial meeting will open Tuesday) to demonstrate our support for efforts to stop the war between the two neighbors." He stressed that the GCC has repeatedly tried to persuade Iran to stop the war without any success. Iran, at war with Iraq for the past 42 months, has rejected several Arab and international peace calls, including a negotiated settlement proposed by Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates on behalf of the GCC, which groups them with Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar.

In the wake of a fresh flareup of the Gulf war in the past three weeks, Iraq called for an urgent meeting for Arab foreign ministers to discuss the war developments amid reports that Iran was massing some half-a-million soldiers for a decisive attack.

BAHRAIN

Tunisian Cooperation Minister Visits for Talks

Amir Receives Minister

GF111908 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Manama, 11 Mar (WAKH) — His highness the amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al Khalifah received here today Tunisian State Minister for International Cooperation Ahmed Ben Arafa. Mr Arafa currently is visiting Bahrain at the head of an economic delegation to attend meetings of Bahrain-Tunisian joint committee for economic and technical cooperation.

His highness the amir welcomed the Tunisian delegation, stressing the importance of boosting cooperation between the two countries in various fields, primarily in the economic and technical domains. The amir hailed cooperation between the two countries, calling for further cooperation and the exchange of visits among officials of the two countries. His highness the amir wished the committee meetings a success.

The audience was attended by the director of the economic department at the Foreign Ministry and the head of the Bahraini side to the committee meetings, Jasim Ahmad Bu 'Allay, and the Tunisian charge d'affaires to Bahrain.

Following the meeting, Mr Arafa affirmed that His highness the amir said committee members should exert greater efforts in the interest of the two countries. Mr Arafa hailed Bahrain's achievements and progress.

Prime Minister Receives Visitor

GF121325 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1049 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 12 Mar (WAKH) — Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah received in Manama this morning Mr Ahmed Ben Arafah, the Tunisian minister of state for international cooperation, who is currently visiting Bahrain.

During the meeting, they reviewed the achievements of the Bahraini-Tunisian committee for economic and technical cooperation in bolstering cooperation.

Information Minister Comments on Iran-Iraq War

GF111446 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1019 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 11 Mar (WAKH) — Bahraini Information Minister Mr Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad has announced that in spite of the recent ferocity in the Iraq-Iran war, there is optimism that one of the current mediations in the arena may produce a political outlet that may stop the fighting. He pointed out that Iraq has already agreed to all mediations. Mr. al-Mu'ayyad expressed optimism that the wisdom enjoyed by the leaders of the region's countries will prevent the spread and expansion of this war.

In a statement to the newspaper *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, which is published in Jidda, Mr Tariq al-Mu'ayyad noted the attempts to undermine security in some of the region's countries and expressed the belief that what is taking place in the Gulf is a continuation of the policy of infiltration that is pursued by some foreign countries in order to shake the citizen's sense of security. He added that the citizens in the Gulf will always be opposed to those who want to agitate for sedition. He pointed out that the cooperation between the citizens and official bodies is a cooperation that affirms the strength of the internal front in these countries.

Mr Tariq al-Mu'ayyad said that we must learn something from these events, and that is the fact that there are certain parties who are not reluctant to do anything to achieve their goals and thus, we must be more careful, more conscious and firmer in whatever has anything to do with the internal security of our countries.

PDRY

YSP Chairman Receives Soviet Message

GF111524 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office at the Central Committee Secretariat today the Soviet ambassador in Aden, Vladislav Pelrovich, who delivered to him a written message from the Soviet leadership on cooperation between the two friendly parties and countries.

During this meeting, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad expressed his satisfaction and appreciation for the continued development of the Yemeni-Soviet friendly relations and affirmed our party's and country's intention to continue to develop and expand them in all fields.

YSP Cables Cypriot Socialist Party Conference

GF091554 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text of congratulatory cable sent by the Secretariat of the YSP Central Committee to the Cypriot Socialist Party on the occasion of the convening of its conference — read by announcer; date not given]

[Text] The Secretariat of the YSP Central Committee conveys its warm, comradely greetings to the comrades of the Presidium of the conference and the comrades who were delegated to attend the conference of the Cypriot Socialist Party. The YSP Central Committee warmly greets the convening of the conference of your party and wishes it success in its sessions.

Our YSP and the PDRY Government have expressed their concern over the unilateral proclamation of the Turkish republic in northern Cyprus. We would like to reiterate our constant position toward the unity, safety, independence and the nonalignment of Cyprus.

Dear comrades, we also have full confidence that the struggle of your party and the struggle of all democratic and progressive powers will have an effective role in attaining the legitimate rights of all the people of Cyprus in the direction of full independence, full sovereignty and unity.

Finally, we would like to express our total solidarity with the just struggle of your party and people.

QATAR

French Minister Cresson Visits for Talks

GF110710 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2025 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Doha, 10 Mar (WAKH) — French Foreign Trade and Tourism Minister Mrs Edith Cresson and her accompanying delegation arrived in Doha from Riyadh this evening on a 3-day visit to the State of Qatar. The visit is part of her tour of a number of the region's states.

Mrs Cresson will, during her visit, hold meetings with Qatari officials with the aim of bolstering bilateral relations, and will discuss a number of issues pertaining to increasing mutual cooperation in the economic field.

Mr 'Isa Ghanim al-Kawwari, Qatari information minister, and Mrs Cresson are expected tomorrow morning to open the third round of talks of the joint Qatari-French committees. During these talks, topics pertaining to the development of trade relations and cooperation in the industrial, agricutural and technological fields and in the field of technical training and alternative power resources will be discussed.

Joint Committee Meetings Open

GF111808 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Information Minister 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwwari and French Foreign Trade and Tourism Minister Mrs Edith Cresson opened the third meeting of the joint Qatari-French committee at the Sheraton Hotel in Doha today.

The information minister paid tribute to the friendship between the two countries and the French stand on Arab causes. He stressed that the State of Qatar is eager to maintain the developing economic relations with France and to consolidate the necessary efforts for increasing and strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries to enhance development and serve issues of common interest.

In the opening speech, the minister referred to the existing Qatari-French joint projects and said that the joint Qatari-French committee will study a number of industrial projects which will enhance and develop economic relations between the two countries.

Mrs Cresson expressed French pride in the friendship with the Arab countries and alluded to the growing and developing French-Qatari relations in various fields, particularly the economic field. She expressed France's eagerness to develop and strengthen these relations in all fields.

Attending the opening of the Qatari-French committee meeting at the Sheraton Hotel was Mr Henri Piot, the French ambassador in Doha, while the Qatari side included officials from the ministries of economy, trade, industry, agriculture, finance and petroleum, foreign affairs, and communications and transport.

Committee Meetings Conclude

GF111958 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1845 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Doha, 11 Mar (WAKH) — The joint Qatari-French committee ended the activities of its third session in Doha this evening. The Qatari side was led by Information Minister 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwwari and the French side was led by Minister of Trade and Tourism Mrs Edith Cresson.

A responsible source from the Qatari side said the two sides reviewed the committee's resolutions and recommendations made in its previous sessions and affirmed the importance of implementing these resolutions regularly out of a keenness to develop economic relations between the two countries.

In a statement to QNA, the source said the committee discussed a number of issues related to improving trade relations between the two countries: increasing cooperation in industrial, agricultural, technological, transportation, communications, and pettrochemicals fields; improving small and medium industries; contributing to development projects, particularly in the fields of energy and alternative energy sources; water; gas; the training of Qatari technical workers; and studies and research for improving current Qatari industries.

The source said the two sides affirmed the need for continuing such meetings within the framework of the agreement signed by the two countries and of exerting the utmost efforts to improve joint cooperation in all economic and trade fields in a way to serve development and issues of mutual concern.

The committee is scheduled to hold its fourth session in Paris next year.

Amir Receives Mitterrand Message

GF111130 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1017 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Doha, 11 Mar (WAKH) — Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from French President Francois Mitterrand.

The message deals with ways to bolster bilateral relations in all fields, especially in the fields of economy and tourism. The message also includes an invitation to the Qatari amir to visit France. QNA said that Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received the invitation.

The message was delivered by Mrs Edith Cresson, French minister of foreign trade and tourism, who is currently visiting the state of Qatar, during her audience with the Qatari amir this morning.

Cresson Departs for Cairo

GF121456 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Mrs Edith Cresson, French foreign trade and tourism minister, left Doha for Cairo today after a 3-day visit to Qatar. The French minister was seen off at Doha International Airport by Mr 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwwari, information minister; Henri Piot, Republic of France's ambassador to the State of Qatar; and Ambassador Ahmad Jasim al-Mulla, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

During her visit, Mrs Cresson held talks with Qatari officials which aimed at bolstering economic relations between the two countries. She attended the third meeting of the Qatari-French joint committee which was held in Doha on 11 March within the framework of the 1974 economic cooperation agreement between the governments of the two countries.

The final statement on the results of the third meeting of the Qatari-French joint committee was signed today on the Qatari side by 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwwari, the information minister, and on the French side by Mrs Edith Cresson, French foreign trade and tourism minister. The signing was witnessed by Henri Piot, French ambassador to Qatar.

The two sides stressed the importance of developing bilateral economic relations and expressed interest in developing and strengthening these relations, and in increasing economic and trade cooperation to enhance development and serve common issues.

The two sides expressed optimism over the continuation and increase of mutual trade. They also expressed optimism over the continuation of French participation in projects which will serve Qatar's development.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives PLO's 'Arafat 13 March

LD131213 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat and his accompanying delegation, now on a visit to the Kingdom.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, and Rafiq an-Natshah, the PLO's representative in the Kingdom.

Foreign Minister on Abrogation of 17 May Accord

GF091456 Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 8 Mar 84 p 1

[Falih as-Saghir dispatch]

[Excerpt] The Saudi foreign affairs minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, has stated that everyone is hopeful that Lebanese reconciliation will be attained so that a firm foundation for solving the Lebanese crisis can be established.

In a statement to the *'UKAZ* and *AL-YAWM* newspapers, he said: "We hope that the latest steps will lead to rapproachement so that the situation will improve in Lebanon."

This was reported as his reply to the question put to him by *AL-YAWM* about the scrapping of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which has triggered controversy in capitals of the world.

France's Cresson Comments on Cooperation Talks

LD102225 Riyadh SPA in English 1912 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Riyad, March 10, SPA — French Foreign Trade and Tourism Minister Mrs Edith Cresson left here for Doha after a several days' visit to the Kingdom, during which she visited Jidda, Dammam and Riyadh and held talks with Saudi officials on cooperation between France and Saudi Arabia in the field of commerce. She was seen off at the airport by Commerce Minister Dr. Sulayman as-Sulayyim and a number of senior officials.

Meanwhile, in a joint press conference which was also addressed by Commerce Minister Sulayman as-Sulayyim, Mrs Cresson expressed her satisfaction with the positive outcome of her visit to the Kingdom and her talks with Saudi officials and businessmen. She also hailed existing cooperation between the two countries in development sectors. She expressed a strong desire to achieve closer cooperation between the two countries in the economic and commercial fields, and disclosed that a joint commission for investment will be set up soon with the aim of achieving rapprochement between companies from each side.

The French minister said she was impressed with the Kingdom's accomplishments in the industrial sector which will facilitate its becoming one of the industrialized countries, and not merely to remain an an oil exporting country only.

French Air Force Chief Arrives for Visit

LD111842 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1815 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Riyadh, 11 Mar (SPA) — The chief of staff of the French Air Force, General Bernard Capillon, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Riyadh this evening on a several-day visit to the Kingdom at the invitation of the commander of the Saudi Air Force, Lieutenant General Muhammad Sabri, who was at the airport to welcome him.

Former U.S. President Ford Arrives in Dhahran

LD121217 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Former U.S. President Gerald Ford arrived in Dhahran today on a visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed on his arrival at Dhahran international airport by Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, and several other officials.

UAE

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

GF120610 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Mar (WAKH) — Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mr Shamsud Doha arrived in Abu Dhabi early this morning on a 4-day visit to the UAE.

During his visit, Mr Shamsud Doha will hold talks on ways to bolster bilateral relations and on other regional and international issues. The Bangladesh foreign minister's visit to the UAE is part of his 1-week tour during which he will also visit the UAE, Egypt and Iraq.

Foreign Minister Receives Visitor

GF121327 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1240 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Mar (WAKH) — Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, met here today with Shamsud Doha, Bangladesh minister of foreign affairs, who is currently visiting Abu Dhabi.

During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations and current developments in the region — notably the recent escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the efforts the ICO is making to stop this war — and the developments in the situation in the Middle East.

AL-KHALIJ Warns Against Foreign Interference

GF101110 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0600 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 10 Mar (WAM) — The newspaper *AL-KHALIJ* has described the call by some Arabs to the United States and the Soviet Union to solve the Iraqi-Iranian war as immature, and as viewing the solution to the Arab problems with one eye.

The newspaper asked how it is possible to call on the enemies of the Arab nation and Islamic peoples to present solutions to these problems, "as if the U.S. aid to Israel in signing the Camp David agreements, the U.S. contribution to imposing the humiliating May 17 agreement, and the attack against our people in Lebanon by the U.S., French, British and Italian forces are not enough reason to stay away from those who only want to create evil and disputes among the Arabs and Muslims."

The newspaper stressed that solutions for national problems of destiny emerge from the Arab nation, and that putting an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war comes within the framework of a peace program to be offered by the Arabs through uniting efforts toward Arab Palestine and for the liberation of Jerusalem. "Then we will not find the two sides of the war refusing this program, and we will find that the Arabs and all Islamic nations will have a joint and unified political, economic and military stand; because only the voracious West is interested in our land and wealth, and other similar powers will be against such a program," the paper said.

The newspaper called for preventing U.S. intervention in the Arab Gulf region. The paper added that this will provide the best opportunity for the Arabs and the Muslims to resolve bilateral differences and will unite all efforts for the liberation of Palestine.

Toward the end of its commentary, the newspaper requested that the Arab meetings to be held this week prevent the United States from intervening in the Gulf, and keep the NATO fleets away from the region. The newspaper said that the invitation to foreigners to solve Arab problems means "we put all our eggs in the basket of the United States and the West, and these are our enemies."

YAR

Foreign Minister Leaves for Baghdad Conference

GF121328 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1225 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] San'a', 12 Mar (WAKH) — Dr Ahmad al-Asbahi, YAR minister of foreign affairs, left San'a' for Baghdad today to take part in the emergency Arab foreign ministers' conference, which will begin there tomorrow, Tuesday.

Iraq called for the convocation of this conference to discuss the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war and to put an end to this war, which has entered its fourth year.

More Reportage on Visit of Greek President

Mubarak Meets Karamanlis 12 Mar

NC121507 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1305 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met with Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis at the Presidential Palace in Al-Qubbah at noon today. The talks were confined to the two presidents.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said after the 90-minute meeting between Presidents Mubarak and Karamanlis that the talks were preliminary to the principal discussions that will take place tomorrow morning.

Today's discussions dealt in general with relations between the two countries in various spheres; with international questions of mutual interest, particularly Mideast problems, and the Palestinian and Lebanese problems; and with several Mediterranean problems.

'Ali said the talks will resume tomorrow during which a more detailed exchange of views will take place on these topics.

President Husni Mubarak is scheduled to give an official dinner banquet at the Presidential Palace in 'Abidin this evening in honor of the Greek president and his accompanying delegation.

Mubarak Banquet Speech

NC122112 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1925 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has again called for an end to the explosive situation in Lebanon and Gulf area. The president held the international community primarily responsible for these conditions.

In a speech he delivered this evening at a dinner banquet he gave in honor of Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis, President Mubarak also called for ending the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and enabling the Lebanese people to regain control over their land, exercise their sovereignty, and strengthen their legitimate authority. President Mubarak affirmed Egypt's readiness to support Lebanon in everything it considers will realize its national interests and is consistent with its sovereignty and independent decisionmaking. President Mubarak said: Egypt will take specific stands within the UN framework within the next few weeks to help Lebanon and prepare the appropriate atmosphere for its final extrication from its crisis.

President Mubarak called for the settlement of the Cyprus issue through dialogue and peaceful methods to bring about the establishment of good relations between the parties and to safeguard Cyprus' independence and territorial integrity.

The text of President Husni Mubarak's speech at the dinner banquet follows:

Your Excellency President Konstandinos Karamanlis, dear friends:

I am happy to welcome you to the good land of Egypt, which is linked to Greece and its noble people by the strongest historic and cultural ties. We are brought together by our affiliation to the Mediterranean. That means identity in thought and knowledge, interaction in experience and practice, similar circumstances under which we wage the battle of comprehensive development, and mutual interests among individuals and groups.

The cultural meeting which took place between the two peoples thousands of years ago was not historic coincidence or a transient, unintentional movement. The nobility of man in the northern and southern Mediterranean lies in his unique quest for the truth — his determination to understand the secrets of the universe in which he lives and the purpose of life, and to arrive at the moral and spiritual values that guide mankind as he makes his giant steps on the road of progress and civilization.

Our two peoples realized, through their distinguished civilized awareness, that the strongest bridges on which the creative interaction between nations is based are those of science and knowledge. These are only built by prominent men of thought and bearers of the torches of light. Pythagoras and Plato came to Egypt in search of knowledge. They joined the Heliopolis Temple. They were influenced by the Egyptian ideals. Modern Platonism sprang from Egypt at the hands of Plato and his students. Thus, Greek philosophy merged with Egyptian spiritualism.

In the era of Ptolemes, the capital of the ancient world moved from Athens to Alexandria with its universities and great libraries, which were the destination of thinkers everywhere. They included the mathematician Euclid, the poet Kalimakhos, and the astronomer Zoroaster. The sciences, arts, and literature flourished, and a great intellectual renaissance emerged, spreading its light east and west, and greatly contributing to human progress.

During the Byzantine era, the thinkers turned to the gods and religious thinking. The intellectual and spiritual dialogue between Alexandria and Byzantium continued for many centuries. The cultural exchange, intellectual interaction, and dialogue between Egyptians and Hellenes continued for more than 1,000 years.

When the Islamic Arab civilization came to Egypt, special attention was given to the translation of scientific and literary books from ancient Greek to Arabic. These translations were the instrument that preserved this enormous heritage for humanity, which represents one of the most fertile periods of intellectual creativity in its long history. From these Arabic translations the gems of Greek thought were translated into Latin and the many European languages which branched from it. This was the greatest embodiment of Egypt's belief in its role of creating civilization and linking cultures. This role can only be explained by the Egyptian's belief in the unity of human thought, the universality of culture, and mental creativity.

This intellectual interaction and cohesion continued into modern times. Rif'at at-Tantawi was one of the first to translate a Greek mythology book. Cairo University has devoted attention since its establishment to Greek studies, and has allocated an independent section for them replete with literary and scientific works. It drew many Egyptian intellectuals. Ahmad Lutfi as-Sayyid translated Aristotle's book on politics and ethics. Taha Husayn also translated the Athenian Constitution.

Therefore, it is not strange for this special link to be established between the two ancient-rooted people and for them to have abundant amity and close feelings. We remember with appreciation and admiration the role the Greek community in Egypt has played and the fact that it was the only community which merged with the people, interacted with their problems, and sympathized with their demands and aspirations. All of us remember the splendid stand which our Greek brothers took following the nationalization of the Suez Canal Company and placing it under Egyptian management, and when Greek pilots insisted on maintaining their positions side by side with the Egyptian people, and on contributing to the continuation of navigation between the various countries and continents.

All of us also remember the role which President Karamanlis personally played in this regard from the position he occupied in his country. This stand will always be recorded in gold letters in our common history. The significance and implications of that stand will continue to be remembered throughout the years.

Your Excellency, dear brother President Karamanlis, we sense your country has a genuine interest in the Middle East situation, not only from the standpoint of its geographical proximity and close link between peace and stability in this vitally and strategically important area and security and prosperity throughout the European continent, but also from the standpoint of concern on the fate of peoples and awareness of the movement of history. I would like to express to you our extreme thanks and deep appreciation for your support of the fraternal Palestinian people and their right to self-determination, and to express their distinct identity and independent will. We also hail your contribution to aiding the safety of members of this people and their leadership during the tragedy which faced them in recent months. I also appreciate the role which your country is playing inside the European Community and its call on the international community to play an active role in the peace efforts. This stand stems from your realization that permanent and stable peace should be built on justice, respect for legitimate rights and interests, and honoring reciprocal legal and moral commitments.

These days we are witnessing two more chapters of the bloody Middle East tragedy. They constitute a source of danger and extreme anxiety, and generate a great deal of violence, destruction, and suffering. Thus it is the duty of all of us to work with all the strength and courage we have to put an end to the explosive situation in Lebanon and Gulf area. The international community shoulders a basic responsibility toward these conditions, and as a result, cannot adopt the stand of a spectator or be indifferent to these events and their consequences.

We have often demanded an end to the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. The Lebanese should be allowed the opportunity to regain control over their territories and assets, excercise their sovereignty, strengthen their legitimate authority, and eliminate sedition among their communities and sons. This occupation, its complications, and the course that some had followed in dealing with it have caused the situation to deteriorate to a dangerous degree. They have also threatened the national entity with fragmentation and disintegration — it is as if this ancient country had been condemned with fragmentation and division. Under these conditions, the Lebanese leadership had to take the difficult decisions it found necessary to confront the situation. It remains up to the international community to carry out its duty of supporting Lebanon and of enabling it to once again rise so as to play its indispensable role in the area. On its part, Egypt will not hestitate to stand with Lebanon in everything it believes would realize Lebanon's national interest and conform with its sovereignty and free will. Egypt will take specific steps within the coming weeks within the framework of the United Nations to help Lebanon create the appropriate atmosphere for its final extrication from the crisis so that it may mobilize its resources for construction and development.

The time has come for all the sons of this fraternal people to cast their differences aside, for this is not the time for maneuvers or for seeking to distribute spoils and impose ideas. Moreover, it is not correct for anyone to define his stand on the basis of being a victor or a vanquished; all are compatriots who share in the joys and the afflictions, and they all have a great responsibility. Lebanon's national and regional entity will not have any sanctity if its own sons repudiate its sovereignty and independence.

In the Gulf war, on the other hand, the escalation has reached a degree which the international community cannot endure. All states will suffer from its destructive results and damaging effects, even though they are thousands of miles from the battlefield. Therefore, there is a dire need for a decisive international stand that would herald the return of stability to the area, revive hopes in their peoples, guarantee an immediate end to the fighting, and halt the raids to which the civilians, children, and elderly are being exposed to. Tangible and definite steps must be taken to stop supplying the combatants with weapons and equipment, because everyone who continues to supply these materiels — now that the war has reached this degree — will be considered a participant in the bloodletting of scores of thousands of sons of both peoples, and will threaten peace and stability in the area. Our struggling peoples, who are resisting aggression and injustice, will not tolerate such a stand.

We also demand a solution to the Cyprus issue through dialogue and peaceful methods in a manner that will lead to the establishment of good relations between the parties and safeguard Cyprus' independence and territorial integrity according to the principles contained in the UN resolutions issued in that regard.

Friends, together we shoulder a common responsibility for safeguarding peace and stability in the Middle East, and for strengthening the bridges of understanding and cooperation among its peoples. We are determined to accomplish this message with all the sacrifices it requires. Moreover, we shall proceed to increase cooperation between the two countries in all fields in a manner commensurate with the firm cultural ties and mutual profound sentiments.

Allow me, brothers, to ask you to stand in salute to our dear friend, President Konstandinos Karamanlis, the friends who are present here, all the sons of the noble Greek people, and Greek-Egyptian friendship. God's peace and mercy be with you.

Karamanlis Reply

NC122241 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text]Cairo, 12 Mar (MENA)—Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis has warned that the Gulf war poses the danger of spreading. He said the unrestrained results of the war threaten international peace and order.

In a speech he delivered at the dinner banquet that President Mubarak hosted in his honor tonight, Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis demanded an immediate halt to the fighting between Iraq and Iran, and hoped a peaceful solution to the bloody dispute will be reached.

President Karamanlis condemned the use of violence in Lebanon, andexpressed hope that the sides to the Lausanne conference will adopt the necessary national stands to restore Lebanon's national unity so that it may get rid of foreign interference.

In his speech, the Greek president affirmed that the Middle East problem, whose starting point is the Palestinian problem, has become gravely complicated because of Israel's negative stand.

The following is the text of the Greek president's speech:

Mr President: I thank you profusely for your warm reception and good words you had for my country and people. I greatly appreciate these words, which sincerely express the close ties between our peoples. These ties, Mr President, have deep roots in both ancient and modern history. The Greek and Egyptian civilizations merged together throughout the centuries and left mankind a glorious heritage of common characteristics within the framework of the noble values which enriched and continue to enrich human thought.

The history of Greek-Egyptian relations is long, continuous, and endless. As I said, the ties that have linked our people since the bright Hellenic era, which led to the convergence of the two civilizations, continue to this day. These ties show through specific stands the mutual solidarity and support at decisive and critical moments in our peoples' history. One such stand was adopted during the Suez crisis, when Greece and the Greeks who lived in this country proved in practice the true feelings of friendship they harbor toward the Egyptian people. The same goes for Egypt, which has always offered its unreserved support for the Cypriot people, who have suffered and continue to suffer a lot.

Mr President, this traditional friendship that links our two peoples assumes a special significance today when the international situation is so vague and dangerous to the extent that one wonders whether the present leaders of mankind are really cognizant of their responsibilities. Local and civil wars and violence and oppression are causing disturbances in the world and are threatening international peace. I can refer to many examples, the most eloquent of which are those taking place in the area extending from the eastern-Mediterranean to Central Asia, and which recently have become acutely serious.

I will begin with the Cyprus issue. It is natural that we Greeks should react in a special way to it. As you know, Turkey, which has illegally seized approximately half of the island of Cyprus, not only disregards the UN resolutions in a provocative way, but also attempts to carry out illegal actions to partition it. The international community must meet such activities with determination because they constitute a precedent which, if used on a wide scale, could lead to the fragmentation of many countries throughout the world.

In addition to the Cyprus issue, I must very regrettably add that Turkey is increasing tension in Greek-Turkish relations through its unacceptable challenges in the Aegean Sea.

In addition to the human losses and material damage which the two states will sustain in the future, the war between Iraq and Iran harbors the danger of expansion and spreading its fire to the entire area, with the threat of unlimited repercussions to international peace and order. Greece recommends an immediate halt to the fighting and hopes a peaceful solution will be found to this bloody dispute.

The same could apply to the regrettable situation in Lebanon, which we Greeks are following with special sympathy. We condemn the use of violence by various parties in this country. We support the restoration of Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity through the withdrawal of the foreign forces, which, among other things, encourage the continuation of the civil war in that friendly state. I hope and pray all parties to the Lausanne conference will adopt the necessary national stands to restore national unity in Lebanon so that it may rid itself of foreign interference.

This leads us, Mr President, to the famous Middle East problem, which directly concerns your country, and from which the peoples of the region have been suffering for a long time. Furthermore, this problem poses a constant threat to world peace. The Middle East problem, whose starting point is the Palestinian problem, has become gravely complicated over the years because of Israel's negative stand and because it has become a factor in political, ideological, economic, and religious conflicts. Thus, it has transcended its original and natural course. It is the desire of both the Palestinians and Israelis to have their own homeland.

The problem has assumed dimensions on the international level and permitted expressions of both sympathy and fanatic haughtiness, which precluded confronting it with the necessary courage and logic. In this regard, I cannot but praise the courage and moderation of President as-Sadat, who courageously and realistically attempted to place this complicated problem on the path of logic and dialogue. The great sacrifices that Egypt offered in recent years because of the Middle East problem guaranteed it the right to determine the future of its people by itself and to have its special concept of the method for establishing peace in this part of the world, which is suffering greatly.

Mr President, it is not my intention to give advice to any of the parties concerned, particularly not to Your Excellency, because you are better aware of the dimensions of the issue. However, in my capacity as the president of a neighboring state which always harbors feelings of friendship and amity toward all the Arab states, without exception, and which is affected, even if indirectly, by the Middle East crisis, I wish to express my hope that a practical and just solution satisfying all parties concerned will be achieved as quickly as possible. This means this solution should guarantee secure borders for all the people in the region and a national entity for the Palestinians.

I believe that if all the Arabs agree on a joint, firm, and realistic policy, then a solution would be easy to find. To achieve this, all parties must show courage and wisdom — this is the path which your state actually followed, Mr President, by the efforts it exerted and continues to exert to achieve peace for all peoples in this region. This role had to be carried out by a great state such as Egypt, which has great capacities and responsibilities for this area's future.

Mr President, I believe that under your wise leadership, the efforts exerted for the sake of the Egyptian people's progress and for rebuilding peace in this part of the world will be crowned with success. In turn, this success will prove the soundness of your wise and courageous policy, and will be an example to be followed by many.

With these notions, I invite you to stand in salute to his excellency the president, to the happiness and prosperity of the friendly Egyptian people, and to your personal health and happiness, Mr President.

Reportage on Upcoming Palestine Conference

Mubarak Invited To Open Session

NC121606 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1505 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] London, 12 Mar (MENA) — The Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee has invited Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to open the 4-day conference for the support of the Palestinian people to be held in Cairo this month. It also invited all Afro-Asian solidarity committees, world federations, several international figures, and all Egyptian political forces and parties, as well as certain U.S. figures.

This was stated by the committee's secretary, Ahmad Hamrush. In an exclusive statement today to the London-based *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, Hamrush said the committee has not invited any Israeli members of the Peace Supporters' Group to avoid raising the issue of contact with Israelis during the conference session.

Regarding Israel's protest against holding the conference in Cairo, Hamrush said: We in Egypt live in a democratic country and are proud of our democracy. I don't believe Israel has any right at all to interfere in any activity inside Egypt, and we do not accept its interference.

Hamrush also emphasized that the Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee rejects every type of interference in affairs concerning Egyptian sovereignty.

'Arafat Due To Attend

PM131011 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 11 Mar 84 p 1

[*AL-AHRAM* correspondent report: "'Arafat Due in Cairo To Attend Conference in Support of Palestinian People"]

[Text] An *AL-AHRAM* correspondent has learned that PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat is due to arrive in Cairo on 30 March to lead a Palestinian delegation to the conference in support of the Palestinian people being organized by the AAPSO Secretariat.

'Arafat said he will put the question of his attendance at the conference before the Executive Committee at its first meeting.

Parliamentary Team Leaves for Afro-Arab Meeting

NC111647 Cairo MENA in English 1556 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, March 7 (MENA) — The Egyptian Parliamentary Delegation under Deputy Speaker Sayyid Zaki left here today for Tunisia on a five-day visit to attend meetings of the Afro-Arab parliaments due to open here on Monday.

University Students Stage Demonstration

PM121434 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 9 Mar 84 p 1

[*ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* correspondent report: "Demonstration in Alexandria University in support of Cairo University"]

[Text] Cairo — Students of the law faculty of Alexandria University yesterday morning demonstrated in support of the demand for ridding the university of the guards stationed inside the university campus and the abrogation of the law issued in 1979 banning students from engaging in political activity.

The students gathered inside the faculty campus in the morning in the form of a peaceful demonstration and were heard shouting "freedom, where are you...the university guard is between me and you." The demonstrators' enthusiasm heightened when joined by Dr Ashraf Bayyumi, a professor in the College of Sciences, in support of the students. He shouted with them, "the university is for students and not for foreigners."

Despite the presence of university guards around the demonstrators, none of them interfered. The demonstration ended after 3 hours during which time studies in the college stopped.

The demonstration was an expression of solidarity by Alexandria University students with the students of Cairo University who have demonstrated several times. They decided to end their demonstrations a few days ago and form committees to act as students' unions in bringing their demands to the authorities.

AL-AKHBAR Says Libya Holding Egyptian Sailors

NC130631 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2345 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 12 Mar (MENA) — The newspaper *AL-AKHBAR* reports on Tuesday that Libyan authorities are holding an Egyptian captain and 10 sailors rescued by a Bulgarian ship after their ship sank in the open sea.

The newspaper says the General Federation of Marine Transport has asked Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, minister of state for manpower and chairman of the General Federation of Egyptian Trade Unions, to contact the ILO and International Union of Sailors in Geneva to secure the release of the Egyptian sailors.

The ship (*Andromati*), captained by Muhammad Anis 'Abd al-Hadi, sank due to adverse weather in the open sea opposite the Libyan coast. The sailors were picked up by a Bulgarian ship on its way to Libya. In accordance with international navigation law, the ship handed them over to the Libyan destination port, where they were arrested by Libyan authorities.

AL-AHRAM on Libyan Support for Sudanese Rebels

PM121546 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 7 Mar 84 p 7

[Editorial: "Every Inch"]

[Text] Following a long procrastination and disguise like someone playing hide and seek, Al-Qadhdhafi has emphasized that Libya has decided to support what he called the southern Sudan revolution for the liberation of every inch of Sudanese territory. Naturally that means Al-Qadhdhafi is reaffirming his support for the secessionist elements in southern Sudan. These elements have renewed their activities with secret foreign help following President Numayri's success in uniting Sudan following the disturbances which continued for 17 years. That is why we can understand President Numayri's statement that Sudan would fight both Libya and Ethiopia, whom he accuses of secessionist collusion, if they continue to encourage these elements.

President Numayri's readiness to confront the secessionists and those behind them in defense of Sudan's unity and borders is understandable. What is not understandable is the Libyan regime master's threat to support what he called the southern revolution for the liberation of every inch of Sudan.

What about the Libyan revolution against Al-Qadhdhafi's regime? There are daily reports on the activities of that revolution for the liberation of every inch of Libya. There is an old saying that if you live in a glass house, do not throw stones at others. The reports on the mounting Libyan resistance inside Libya and abroad indicate Al-Qadhdhafi's house is not only made of fragile glass, but is almost like straw which can be blown away by the wind at any moment. Like the Iranian regime, the Libyan regime is compelled to look for external fronts and gaps in the hope of uniting the divided ranks at home.

Commentary on Lebanese Talks, U.S. Strategy

NC091421 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Commentary by Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani]

[Text] The abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement does not yet put an end to the Lebanese crisis. It may result in setting things right in Lebanon and the region. The abrogation was denounced by Israel, but the fact remains Israel never attempted to put this agreement into practice, except to serve its political and economic interests. Israel's denunciation does not change one simple fact — that Syria has close ties and common interests with Lebanon.

Now that the ball has been placed in the Lebanese court, the Lebanese leaders ought to solve all pending issues to emerge from the tribulation with a constitution that unifies the Christians and Muslims, and precludes a relapse into sedition and devastation.

Pierre al-Jumayyil and Camille Sham'un oppose any changes in the Lebanese Constitution and are calling for simultaneous Syrian and Israeli withdrawals. That is their privilege and the privilege of every Lebanese. However, let's just recall that when the Syrian forces entered Lebanon in 1976, they were doing so at the request of the Lebanese Christian Front — a request denounced by the Islamic Front. Still opposed to each other, these two sides have diametrically altered their previous stances — a matter which only sheds a bleak prospect over the National Reconciliation Conference.

Questions are also being raised as to what observers call a turnabout in U.S. strategy toward Lebanon. That strategy used to regard Suq al-Gharb — a small town in the Lebanese mountains — as a redline for the United States and its allies. Why has this same redline now retreated to an off-shore anchor for the U.S. 6th Fleet. Some observers attribute this shift to the U.S. election year, or to a plausible change in superpower relations following the introduction of the new Soviet leadership. However, with the U.S. failure in solving the Lebanese crisis — a failure admitted by U.S. officials themselves — and the dramatic escalation of the Gulf war, efforts seem to have increased in the Islamic and Arab arenas to create a broader and more effective cooperation to contain the situation in both arenas.

The London-based *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* has stressed that the U.S. Administration began to heed President Husni Mubarak's advice to focus on the Palestinian issue — which represents the core of the Middle East problem. We hope this is true. If so, we hope the change in U.S. policy in Lebanon is linked to this concept. We also hope this will turn a new leaf in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Armed Forces Issues Communique No 1,402 — 12 March

JN121733 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi forces have killed 1,157 Iranians, wounded many, and captured a large number of Iranian prisoners.

A military communique issued here this evening by the Armed Forces General Command said that at dawn today, the Iraqi forces repulsed an Iranian offensive, destroying 16 excavators, 2 vehicles carrying personnel, 2 106-mm guns, and captured serviceable weapons and military hardware of various types.

The communique added that in other areas in the operational theater east of Basra the Iranian enemy yesterday sustained the following losses: 843 killed, large numbers of wounded, many prisoners; 3 106-mm guns, 6 vehicles of various types, and 5 hardware stockpiles destroyed; and several serviceable guns and medium and light weapons captured.

The communique also said that one Iranian boat was destroyed and its occupants were killed in the east Tigris operational sector; and one infantry position was destroyed and its occupants were killed in the Maysan sector.

The communique also said that the Iranian enemy yesterday evening and today shelled Basra, Khanaqin, and Mandali and its suburbs with heavy artillery and that as a result of the shelling 3 civilians were martyred, 11 others were wounded, 1 house was destroyed, and another house was damaged in Basra; 2 were wounded, 3 civilian cars and 1 excavator were damaged in Khanaqin; and several civilian installations were damged in Mandali.

The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,402 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

In defense of Iraq's sovereignty and independence and to safeguard the glorious Arab nation's values and principles, our valiant Armed Forces continue to fight the forces of the rancorous Iranian regime which insists on waging war, expanding, and committing aggressions. The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. At 2030 yesterday, the spiteful enemy attacked our forward units in the area east of Basra. Our valiant units confronted the enemy, and clashed with the enemy units in a fierce battle which lasted until 0500 today. During this battle, our valiant units repulsed the enemy offensive and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy's units. Known enemy losses counted opposite one of our forward units amount to 314 killed, a large number of wounded, many prisoners; 16 excavators, 2 vehicles carrying personnel, 2 106-mm guns destroyed; and several serviceable weapons and military hardware of various types captured.

Enemy losses sustained yesterday as a reslt of our valiant forward units' activities in other areas in the same sector amount to 843 killed, large numbers of wounded, and many prisoners; 7 106-mm guns, 6 vehicles of various types, and 5 hardware stockpiles destroyed; and several serviceable guns and medium and light weapons captured.

2. One boat was destroyed and its occupants were killed in the east Tigris operational sector.

3. One infantry position was destroyed and its occupants were killed in the Maysan sector.

4. The criminal Khomeyniites yesterday evening and today resumed their shelling of Basra, Khanaqin, and Mandali and its suburbs with heavy artillery. As a result of the barbaric enemy shelling 3 civilians were martyred, 11 others were wounded, 1 house was destroyed, and another house was damaged in Basra; 2 were wounded, 3 civilian cars and 1 excavator were damaged in Khanaqin; and several civilian installations were damaged in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 March 1984

Arab League's Klibi Arrives, Makes Statement

JN130859 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Baghdad this morning at the head of a delegation to participate in the Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting, which will begin later today.

In a statement to INA upon his arrival, Klibi hoped that the meeting will produce results on the level of the challenge which is facing the region and which requires an effective Arab solidarity.

Daily on Arab Foreign Ministers Conference

JN121228 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0615 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Mar, (INA) — The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* today calls on the Arab foreign ministers who will meet here tomorrow to take a clear and frank stand in condemning the aggressive Iranian regime.

The paper, which is the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, stresses the importance of expressing serious solidarity with Iraq in accordance with the Arab League Charter, the collective Arab Defense Pact, and the Fes summit resolutions in ways that strengthen the principles of Arab solidarity, ties of affiliation, and the one pan-Arab fate.

In its editorial today, the paper says that the events witnessed in the Arab Gulf region confirm the opinions and conclusions that Iraq has declared since the beginning of the Iranian aggression concerning the nature of the ruling regime in Iran, its greed, and its expansionist aggressive aims against the Arab nation's sovereignty and joint security which are one and indivisible.

ATH-THAWRAH points out that Iraq called for the Arab foreign ministers meeting while it was in a real position for victory and had the ability to defeat the Iranian aggression and to destroy the charlatans and suspects who are dreaming of encroaching on its land and sovereignty and on the security and dignity of the Arab nation.

The paper adds that the meeting is not only aimed at supporting Iraq, because Iraq has proven its sure ability to destroy and bury aggression, but also to prove a fact that the Arab nation still exists, is alive, and is ready to face the dangers and challenges that threaten it.

The paper stresses that the Arab ministers should declare their adherence to the principles of solidarity and joint Arab action, so that the aggressive Iranian regime can understand that it cannot extend its aggression to other Arab countries.

The paper expresses its confidence that the Arab foreign ministers will realize the magnitude of the pan-Arab responsibility they are bearing in this grave and complicated situation when the forces of evil, greed, and expansion join ranks against the Arab nation to subjugate, fragment, and divide its entity.

Concluding its editorial. *ATH-THAWRAH* asserts the importance of the Arab foreign ministers coming out with clear and active resolutions against the expansionist, rascist Iranian regime and its suspect plans and policies that are aimed against the Arab nation, its land, existence, and future.

UN Circulates Foreign Minister's Letter

JN130917 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] United Nations, 13 Mar (INA) — Last night, the UN General Secretariat circulated a letter from Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The letter, which is considered one of the UN Security Council documents, contains a reply to a speech by Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i.

In his letter, which was conveyed by Iraq's permanent UN representative, Tariq 'Aziz said that the contents of the speech the president of the Iranian regime had recently delivered in Tehran clearly expose the intentions behind the Iranian regime's insistence on continuing its hostile war against Iraq.

In his letter, 'Aziz also indicated Iraq's previous assertions that the Iranian regime's exposed ambitions to occupy the Iraqi territories and exploit Iraq's resources are the main reason for the war this regime has been launching against Iraq for 4 years.

Tariq 'Aziz drew the UN Secretary General's attention to the nature of the Iranian regime and the reasons for its persistence in continuing the war against Iraq as well as its abortive attempts to cross the international borders and occupy the Iraqi territories.

Tariq 'Aziz Meets Jordanian, Palestinian Officials

JN121944 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this evening received Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. Tariq 'Aziz also received the delegation representing Palestine, led by Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas]. During the two meetings, the discussion focused on issues related to the Arab foreign ministers conference to begin in Baghdad tomorrow.

Talks Begin With Hungarian Interior Minister

JN121640 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Mar (INA) — Talks between Iraq and Hungary began here today. The Iraqi side is headed by Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister, while the Hungarian side is headed by Interior Minister Istvan Horvath.

At the beginning of the meeting, the Iraqi minister welcomed the guest delegation, stressing Iraq's desire to promote relations with Hungary in service of the friendly peoples in the two countries. He then reviewed the dimensions of the Iranian aggression and Iran's designs of expansion against Iraq. The Iraqi minister also emphasized that Iraq had responded to international mediation for a peaceful settlement of the dispute with Iran while the Iranian regime insists on prolonging this war and posing threats to peace and security in the region and the world. The Hungarian minister praised Iraq's achievements in all fields in spite of the war circumstances. The two sides discussed ways of promoting cooperation between the two countries' interior ministries.

USSR's Yakov Ryabov Praises Economic Ties

JN101626 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow — Yakov Ryabov, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, has praised the development of economic and trade relations between Iraq and the Soviet Union. In statements published in Moscow today, he said that the silver jubilee marking the signing of the first economic agreement that laid down the bases of bilateral economic cooperation will be celebrated on the 16th of this month. Ryabov stressed that cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union has been further consolidated during the last few years, particularly in the fields of oil industry, energy, irrigation, and agriculture.

USSR Official Praises Oil Nationalization

JN121257 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow — The Soviet Union has described the 17 July revolution's decision to nationalize Iraqi oil as one of the brightest pages in Iraq's history in recent decades. This came in an interview held by APN with the deputy chief of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations on the 25th anniversary of signing the first economic and technical agreement between Iraq and the Soviet Union. The two sides will celebrate the agreement's silver jubilee on Friday.

The [Soviet official] said that the nationalization decision is closely linked to the Iraqi people's struggle to free its national wealth from the domination of the imperialist monopolies and to realize economic and social change. The Soviet official also emphasized that Iraq, in this regard, realized tangible successes in the various areas of national economy, including building and developing the national oil industry.

Clandestine Radio Exhorts Iranian Arabs

GF091836 (Clandestine) Voice of Al-Ahvaz Revolution in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Call from the Arab Front for the Liberation of Al-Ahvaz to our Arab people in Al-Ahvaz:

O zealous sons of Al-Ahvaz, O heroes, O fedayeen, O honorable fighters, O sons of (Muhyi) and grandsons of the good martyrs: The heroic Iraqi Army has routed the remnants of the cowardly Khomeyniites. The army of Arabism and Islam, the army of the two rivers and the 1920 revolution, the army of the Ba'thist 17 July revolution has smashed all what was left of the soldiers of Persian rancor and Magian racism. They have now taken to their heels under the pressure of the blow of your Iraqi brothers. Seize this valuable and incomparable opportunity by standing in the way of their defeated remnants and dealing them fatal blows so that you can achieve victory against them and liberate the province of Al-Ahvaz. We are waiting to hear news about you. Struggle until liberation!

[Signed] The Arab Front for the Liberation of Al-Ahvaz.

Kurdish Guerrillas Attack Government Truck

GF112006 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1200 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] In a news report from our brave Shaykhan local committee, our friends reported to us that their organized men threw hurled two hand grenades onto a transport truck carrying mercenaries in Irbil on the night of 28-29 February. The truck's registration number was 19622. Four mercenaries were killed and three were wounded. Ambulances were seen rushing to the scene of the incident and carrying away the casualties. After executing this brave operation, our colleagues returned safely.

Kurdish Radio: Government Executes 25 Soldiers

GF112008 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1200 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] The Saddamist regime is continuing to execute soldiers who refuse to take part in the inauspicious Al-Qadisiyah war. The fascist 'Aflaqis executed 25 soldiers, 9 of whom were Arabs and the rest were Kurds, in As-Sulaymaniyah on 7 March. One of the executed men was called Muhammad Amin Fattah and was from As-Sulaymaniyah.

Kurdish Guerrillas Attack Ba'thist Office in Zakhu

GF112010 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1200 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] The peshmerga of our ally, the Kurdistan Socialist Party, in Zakhu region carried out a missile attack on the 'Aflaqi party headquarters in Nahiyat (Bardar) 'Ajam and caused some damage. On their return, they distributed their party's literature and political leaflets.

Continued Reportage on PRC President's Visit

Husayn, Li Xiannian Return to Amman

JN121717 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn, his guest PRC President Li Xiannian and his wife, and the accompanying Chinese delegation returned to Amman from Aqaba today after a 2-day visit to the city. They toured the city's tourist sites and development projects.

Gong Dafei Press Conference

JN121957 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — Gong Dafei, PRC vice minister of foreign affairs, has praised the results of PRC President Li Xiannian's visit to Jordan and his talks with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials. Speaking at a press conference this evening, Gong Dafei said that viewpoints were identical on the issues that have been discussed, and that the two sides have agreed in principle to sign several agreements to increase PRC-Jordanian cooperation in the economic, commercial, and cultural fields. He said the PRC side agreed to increase PRC purchases of Jordanian chemical fertilizers.

The PRC vice minister said that the PRC president extended invitations to His Majesty King Husayn, Her Majesty Queen Nur, His Highness Prince Hasan and Her Highness Princess Tharwat to visit China, and that the invitations were accepted and the date of the visits will be fixed later.

On China's stand toward the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue, Gong said that Jordan is a confrontation state and is standing against Zionist expansionism. He said that Jordan has helped the Palestinian people in their struggle to realize their aims, and hence, any coordination with Jordan is in the Palestinian people's favor and that of the Arab nation. China, he said, supports this dialogue and wishes it success.

The PRC vice minister reaffirmed his country's stand on the need for Israel to stop its aggression agaisnt the Arab nation and withdraw from the occupied Arab territories. He said: Any peace in the region must ensure the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. He affirms his country's continuous support for the PLO and the Palestinian people in their just struggle against the Zionist enemy. On the Iraqi-Iranian war, The PRC vice foreign minister said that the war has caused losses to both warring sides. He affirmed the need to end this war through dialogue because its continuation doubles the two countries' losses.

AD-DUSTUR on Press Conference

JN130842 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Mar 84 pp 1, 21

[Excerpts] Amman — PETRA — Gong Dafei, PRC vice minister of foreign affairs, has praised the results of PRC President Li Xiannian's visit to Jordan and his talks with His Majesty King Husayn and senior Jordanian officials. Speaking at a press conference last night, Gong Dafei said viewpoints were identical on issues discussed, and that the two sides agreed in principle to sign several agreements to increase PRC-Jordanian cooperation in the economic, commercial, and cultural fields. He said the PRC side agreed to increase PRC purchases of Jordanian chemical fertilizers.

In reply to a question about the possibility of PRC-USSR cooperation to support the Palestinian people's question in light of the closeness of the two sides' viewpoints and concepts regarding the crisis, the PRC vice minister said: The Middle East problem is complicated and it represents a conflict between the two superpowers. This conflict has had a negative effect on the Arabs. Therefore, the key to the solution is in the hands of these two superpowers. He added: The United States supports Israel in establishing settlements and launching wars against the Arabs — wars such as the invasion of Lebanon. He added: The USSR has well known incentives in the region.

Regarding his country's relations with the United States, he said that despite the Taiwan problem, his country's relations with the United States are good and are developing gradually. He said that these relations are based on entrenching peace, mutual respect, and nonaggression. He added: The Taiwan issue constitutes a difference with the United States and we consider Taiwan a part of China. He said: Perhaps in the course of time we will achieve a better understanding.

Aqaba Fertilizer Factory Visit

JN122005 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Tian Jiyun, PRC vice premier of the State Council; Zheng Tuobin, vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade; and members of the guest delegation, accompanied by Kamal al-Humud, Jordanian ambassador in Beijing and member of the escort team of honor, visited the factories of the Jordanian Fertilizer Company today.

Officials of the company briefed the PRC delegation about the production and marketing operations of this industry, which is considered one of the most prominent Jordanian economic accomplishments in southern Jordan. The delegation saw a Chinese ship in the port loading Jordanian fertilizers being exported to the PRC.

Lin Jiamei Visits Aqaba Hospital

JN122036 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Lin Jiamei, wife of PRC President Li Xiannian, visited the Princess Haya Hospital in Aqaba this morning. She toured the hospital's various sections and observed the medical services the hospital renders to Aqaba and the surrounding areas.

She was accompanied by Khawlah 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, member of the escort team of honor.

Crown Prince Hosts Dinner

JN122142 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn and PRC President Li Xiannian and his wife attended the dinner banquet that was given by Their Highnesses Crown Prince Hasan and Princess Tharwat at their house this evening in honor of the PRC president and his wife. The banquet was attended by Her Highness Princess 'Alia, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Information Minister Layla Sharaf, and a number of the accompanying PRC delegation.

Daily on Significance of Visit

JN100850 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 10 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Welcome to the Chinese People Represented by the Guest President," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says in its editorial today: We welcome to Jordan the Chinese leader. His visit to our country represents one of the righteous fruits produced by King Husayn's efforts during his visits to the PRC to defend Arab rights and win the friendship of people who love justice and peace, headed by the great Chinese people. Quick successive steps have been taken in the efforts to develop the ties of friendship with the government and great people of China, so that cooperation has now become another basis for mutual understanding and cooperation. Cooperation with the great Chinese people, with their immense human and economic experiment and their principles that are devoted to defending peoples' freedom, is one way of consolidating the ties of mutual understanding and joint international action in support and defense of our issues at international forums.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B adds: King Husayn has referred to the historical bonds between the ancient Chinese civiliation and the Arab civilization, and to China's principled stands in support of Arab and Palestinian rights. The Chinese leader's statements in rejecting Israel's expansionist policy and considering the consequences of this policy as internationally null and void, are additional support from the Chinese people and their government for Arab rights and our nation's right to free itself from all forms of domination and aggression.

As our leader King Husayn said, the distance between our two countries should not prevent the convergence of our stands and principles in the service of international justice and peoples' rights. The truth, loyalty, and commitment which have characterized China's stands on our causes and the issues of the Third World peoples qualify China for the major international role of leading the people on the Third World in their earnest efforts to win the opportunity for modern reconstruction and development, and to confront outside domination and all forms and manifestations of economic and military hegemony. We are appreciative that the first visit of the Chinese leader Li Xiannian to the Middle East has been to our country, Jordan. This is because our role in the world and our national legitimate rights are strengthened by consolidating our international relations and by winning friends, headed by the great Chinese people, to support our rights and stands.

We have a great deal to learn from the great Chiense people in the fields of building man, organizing human efforts, exploiting the resources of the land, depending on intrinsic power, and expanding the creative human capabilities and exploiting them as a factor for progress in reconstruction and development. The modern Chinese experiment, with its rich humanitarian foundations, has succeeded in achieving great qualitative leaps in the life of the gigantic Chinese nation. In human organization, China has set the example of a people who pin their hopes and ambitions for progress on the human being's ability to make sacrifices and to organize and exploit the available resources in order to improve his prospects.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: The visit and the exchanged speeches, which have confirmed the common principles and viewpoints of our two peoples, are truly considered a strong push forward for King Husayn's international efforts and a clear gain with far-reaching effects for our Arab cause.

Commentary on Importance of Visit

JN101930 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Today's talk]

[Text] The PRC president's current visit to Jordan is the culmination of the bilateral relations that began in 1977 which made good progress in strengthening the ties of cooperation and understanding between Jordan and the PRC, as well as expanding spheres of trade and economic relations between the two countries. His Majesty King Husayn briefed his great guest on the developments in the Middle East crisis, the Palestine question, the Iraq- Iran war, and the Lebanese problem. The Jordanian and the PRC viewpoints were identical regarding the region's issues.

The PRC, which has never established diplomatic relations with Israel, is one of the five Security Council permanent member-states. It enjoys well known international weight, and is a member of the Nonaligned Movement.

The importance of organizing and developing the Jordanian-PRC relations is represented, in the first place, by the PRC's declared positions toward the region's issues, especially the Palestinian question. The agreement of the Jordanian-PRC views on these issues is considered a great accomplishment on the pan-Arab level. His Majesty King Husayn also emphasized to the PRC president the principles of Jordan's stand toward peace based on UN Resolution 242, which stresses the inadmissibility of the acquisition of other people's land by force. On this basis, Jordan also calls for realizing a comprehensive withdrawal in return for peace.

His Majesty King Husayn also briefed the PRC president on the positive results of Jordan's talks with the PLO, which are aimed at taking action to liberate the Palestinian land and save its kinfolk and legitimate owners from the chains of occupation. The king stressed that Jordanian-Palestinian coordination and the joint moves are the most important elements in bringing about a comprehensive peace in the region.

The PRC president's response to the positions that His Majesty King Husayn explained, and the agreement of the Jordanian and the PRC views on the region's issues, is considered a great gain for Arab rights in the Middle East dispute. The presence of the PRC president and his accompanying delegation in Jordan means putting the friendly PRC side in the practical picture of the region's crisis as Jordan forms the longest frontline with Israel. Hence, the Jordanian-PRC talks and their contribution to developing trade, educational, and economic cooperation between the two countries have provided the PRC side with a practical picture of the region's crisis and the tragic dimensions of the Palestine question.

Therefore, we are optimistic about this great international gain and support for our Arab cause, because the PRC enjoys an influential international weight and wisdom in leading the international political trends.

In light of its membership in the Nonaligned Movement, the PRC's responsibilities are increasing as a result of the problems that hamper the progress of the movement toward a better future for the international community in which no aggression, racism, and colonialist policies should exist. We hope that the PRC efforts in the international arena will support our cause and contribute to bringing about a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Article Criticizes U.S. Middle East Policy

JN130757 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
13 Mar 84 p 4

[Article by Rami G. Khouri: "America Is the Problem, Not the Solution"]

[Text] I read a news story in *THE NEW YORK TIMES* a few days ago that I must share with you, though I am still not very sure of exactly what the story meant. But never mind; there can only be good things happening in the world when Walter Mondale seems firmly on the road to defeat in the American presidential primary season. You see, Walter Mondale is just about the worst thing that has been created on the Lord's earth, and the prospect of his running as the Democratic Party's presidential nominee this year was frightening. Well, it seems this is less likely to to happen now, given his several successive defeats at the hand of Gary Hart. I am delighted, because Walter Mondale is a snake, when it comes to morality, and for the American people to cut him back down to size is the best thing that has happened in America since the Boston Tea Party re-affirmed the American principle of no taxation without representation.

To the American people, and especially to those people who have participated in Democratic Party primaries and caucuses to date, I tip my hat in admiration and respect.

But this is just a sidelight. I only wanted to record in public a little cheer from the Arab world for the capacity of the American nation and political system to flush out rats when they try to sneak into the circles of power.

What I want to talk about is *THE NEW YORK TIMES* article I read. It quoted unnamed senior Reagan adminstration officials as saying that the United States is embarking on a new strategy in the Middle East (This is the second week of March, so it's time for the third new American Mideast strategy of the year, I suppose). That strategy, the article said, is "to build closer ties with Israel and Jordan as well as between those two neighbouring countries." It aims to capitalise on "increased Jordanian fears" of Syria and "inklings of growing sentiment for compromise with Israel". The article quoted the administration officials as saying the strategy was "to help King Husayn solve his problems", which were described as security problems with Syria and negotiating problems with Israel. This is supposed to be the start of building a coalition of Arab "moderates" against Syria and Iran, to include Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia, loosely working in co-ordination with Israel and the United States.

This may seem to you, as it does to me, to be extraordinary stuff, even the stuff of fairy tales, But it is not a joke or a fairy tale. It is the real policy of a real superpower based on its real perceptions of how things stand at the moment in the Middle East.

It is also, in my view, one of the most dangerous and colossal misunderstandings of political and psychological realities in the Arab world ever to be manifested by Washington.

Washington is going to help King Husayn solve his problems by giving Jordan arms and nudging it towards an unspoken alliance with Israel, to ward off threatening Syria and Iran? And by giving Jordan arms it expects King Husayn to negotiate with Israel over the future of the West Bank?

This is a ludicrous assumption on both counts. It fails to appreciate that the real threat to any Arab leader is not necessarily the short-term military rumblings of powerful neighbours of different ideological presuasions. The greatest threat facing Jordan today, I would suggest, would be a closer military association and identification with the United States — or precisely the kind of association that the Reagan administration seems anxious to promote by having unanmed senior officials telling the press of their intentions.

For three years, the Reagan administration, first under Secretary of State Alexander Haig and now under the existing foreign policy team, has been trying foolishly to brush aside the awesome contradiction that comes with America's role as the financier and military lifeline of Israel, and its parallel desire to promote better ties with the so-called "moderate" Arabs. The Americans tried to use the threat of the Soviets as a rallying cry around which Arabs and Israelis could join hands and use American weapons to repel the Communist advance into the Middle East. That approach flopped dramatically, as it became clear that the biggest threat to the moderate Arabs were not Russia, but rather an identification with an America that funded and generally seemed to acquiesce in the Israeli invasion and occupation of Lebanon.

Then the Americans changed their focus, saying the real threat to the Arabs was Syrian and Iranian radicalism, and only a combination of American guns, Israeli power and moderate Arab cooperation would repel this threat.

This is a phoney, bogus argument, offered by American politicians who are either plain stupid in Herculean proportions, or naive to the point of irresponsibility. It is true that in the short term, Syrian and Iranian excesses do pose a problem for many Arab states who would rather not see the area gravitate towards ideological extremes or split into superpower spheres of influence.

But the big problems facing the moderate Arabs do not stem mainly from Damascus or Tehran; they stem mainly from an escalating American-Israeli disregard for the real peace impulses of the majority of Arabs, for a peace based on equal rights between Israelis and Palestinians. The greatest threat to Arab moderation comes from American political immobility and financial generosity towards Israel, combined with Israeli military excesses in the area. The disenfranchisement of the Palestinians came 35 years before Syrian or Iranian radicalism. The Israeli occupation of Arab lands long predates Soviet penetration of the Middle East.

The trend of virtually unlimited American military, economic and political support for Israel, and, by association, for Israel's conquests in the region, is itself the single greatest threat to the stability of moderate Arab leadership trying to keep anger, frustration and anti-American emotions of their people from breaking out into violent political expression.

Jordan is not Iran, and King Husayn is not the shah, or As-Sadat. It is an unrealistic, preposterous and uninviting role that Jordan is being asked to play by holding America in one hand and Israel in the other and marching into an anti-Soviet, anti-Syrian and anti-Iranian crusade.

Jordan has had many, many opportunities to break Arab ranks and negotiate for the West Bank with Israel. Why has Jordan never done so?

Why has Jordan consistently called for Soviet involvement in a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace negotiation? Why has Jordan repeatedly tried and still tried to come up with a joint programme with the PLO to pave the way for a negotiated solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict? Why does Jordan continue to diversify its security arrangements and arms purchases away from its traditional heavy reliance on the United States? Why has Jordan bought Soviet arms in recent years?

So, Washington thinks Jordan has some "problems" and wants to help King Husayn solve them? It can start by recognising that most of the problems of Jordan and the other moderate Arabs emanate from the enormous intellectual confusion and political insensitivity of Washington's Middle East policies themselves.

Once the Americans can appreciate that they are more a part of our problem than a means to its solution, we may be able to start doing something collectively to resolve the threats that face all the people of the Middle East.

AR-RA'Y on Phalangist 'Designs' Against Dialogue

JN100819 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 10 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Commenting on the challenges facing the Lebanese national reconciliation conference in Lausanne, *AR-RA'Y* says: As the scheduled date for resuming the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne approaches, clear political and military signs are appearing on the horizon indicating that the Phalangist militias and their allies in the Lebanese Front have decided to abort the conference or drive it to the wall. The political signs are clear in the following:

1. The statement that Karim Baqraduni, the political adviser of the Phalangist militias, made to *MONDAY MORNING* magazine in which he commented on Lausanne even before it began by saying that whatever reforms the conference proposes cannot lead to a solution.

2. The call made by Fadi Afram, the commander of the Phalangist militias, for partitioning Lebanon into factional cantons with their own private armies.

3. The strange statement made by Phalange Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil in which he said that the representatives going to Lausanne do not represent legitimacy. The Phalange Party wants to use this description to present the justification it could later resort to if it decides not to honor the results reached by the conference. It is as if legitimacy is a grant held by the Phalange Party which it can bestow on or withhold from anyone.

AR-RA'Y adds: The military signs exposing the Phalange Party's hidden designs against the conference are as follows:

1. The Phalangist militias' rejection of the offer made by the Amal Movement to reopen Beirut airport, an offer with which the Movement wanted to prove its good intentions and also give the other sides the opportunity to prove their good intentions by positively responding to the offer.

2. The great tension all along the Green Line in Beirut which led to the recent military escalation that affected both East and West Beirut.

3. The fierce fighting that erupted in Beirut's southern suburb, which is the stronghold of the Amal Movement. It has been observed that military escalation has taken place despite the cease-fire agreement that was reached a few days ago.

Thus, the Phalangist plot against the Lausanne conference has become so clear that Western observers are now saying that the conference might actually result in the partition of Lebanon.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The plot to abort the Lebanese national dialogue is a crime on which nobody can take a neutral stand. The Lebanese Government must adopt a firm stand against such a crime, because defending Lebanon's unity must rise above all other considerations.

More on National Reconciliation Conference

Al-Jumayyil Opening Address

NC121838 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1625 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Speech by President Amin al-Jumayyil at the opening of the second round of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne, Switzerland — live]

[Text] At the beginning of this conference, I express my gratitude to the state of Switzerland — president, government, and people — for hosting us for a second time. I appreciate the efforts exerted to provide the suitable atmosphere conducive to the holding of this meeting.

I also thank the representatives of the Governments of Syria and Saudi Arabia. I thank Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, whom I congratulate on his appointment as first vice president of the Syrian Arab Republic, which he earned through his efficiency and sincerity. I also thank His Excellency [Saudi] Minister of State Ash-Shaykh Ibrahim Mas'ud and the other members of the two delegations participating as observers and aides at this conference.

Gentlemen, the distance between our meeting in Geneva and our meeting today in Lausanne is short in time but long and (?very) grave in suffering and (?ordeals). I do not see this historical meeting confined to the conferees here, who are representatives or observers, but I see all the Lebanese among us and with us. I see the tears in the eyes of the bereaved and mothers of the missing persons. I see the widows, orphans, tormented, evacuees, [word indistinct], and those worried about their lives and fates looking upon us, hoping that we will carry the tidings of salvation to a people exhausted by the massacres and to a homeland heavy with wounds.

Nine years of the continuing foolish war have passed. This period was full of killings, kidnappings, shelling, destruction, intimidation, evacuations, and moral, psyhological, and economic collapse. An entire world suffered under the yoke of this horrible epoch. It ended when the Lebanese faced it with their hearts and steadfastness without capitulating or admitting defeat.

I don't know who can be the victor in a war started against all of us — against the whole of Lebanon, both its entity and people — and then turend into a self-destructive war through the exploitation of contradictions? I don't see who achieved gains in this war while Lebanon — all of Lebanon in its various areas, factions, and communities — experienced the bitterness of the tragedy and ordeal and offered martyrs and blood? If 100,000 martyrs fell in the 9-year war, then I consider them all the martyrs of Lebanon — equally those who fought or were fought, the innocent people who fell while seeking their livelihood, or those whom the shells took away during infancy. They are the martyrs of Lebanon's freedom. They were an example for the living who insisted on entrenching their free existence and noble ideals in a free and dignified homeland. If some of them fell for the sake of a specific type of Lebanon, then the virtue of their martyrdom is the guide to a cherished Lebanon.

The sacrifices which our great people made will not go in vain without realizing their goals, principles, and ambitions. We are entrusted with embodying their will and [word indistinct] the sacrifices to liberate the land, establish sovereignty, and strengthen the unity of the people to guarantee their victory in any future difficulty.

For the sake of the unity of our land and people, and in order to consolidate the prerequisites of our existence, and to guarantee the continuation of a strong, free, and impregnable homeland, we will transcend any consideration, means, trend, or option. When the negotiations with Israel, with the participation of the United States, were the only inevitable option to regain the land, we did not hesitate to take that option. When the abrogation of the 17 May agreement became tantamount to the only inevitable option to unify the people, we did not hesitate to undertake that abrogation. When we say that the shedding of blood is cheap for the sake of Lebanon, then an agreement for its sake is not expensive.

When the choice is between an agreement and a homeland, we must choose the homeland. However, the abrogation of the agreement is also a means for unifying the will and closing the ranks, and an approach to the liberation and unification of the land within the framework of a cohesive society that transcends the narrow and self-centered groupings and disintegration and division produced by the recent changes. The abrogation of the agreement also requires a high level of alertness and solidarity, and the transcending of narrow interests. It also demands the termination of the state of chaos, anxiety, and disturbance; the threat to the safety of the people and to Lebanon's security interests; as well as putting an end to any form of criminal and terrorist actions.

Following the atmosphere of understanding and positivity, and the high level of responsibility, frankness, and sincerity which characterized our bilateral meeting, I am very confident that President al-Asad will put all his weight into helping Lebanon reach the stage of health and stability, particularly under the critical circumstances in the area. That will ensure the interests of the two countries and the other Arab interests.

While paying tribute to the gracious efforts that His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has exerted, and to the effective and constructive role fraternal Saudi Arabia has played in Lebanon's ordeal and in sharing Lebanon's events and pains, I should not forget to express our appreciation for the international initiatives and efforts and particularly to the United States, France, Britain, and Italy for the contributions and sacrifices they made for Lebanon and its people.

Lebanon is entitled to expect support from the brothers and friends, and from all countries for its liberation and salvation. This will ensure an atmosphere of reassurance and calm to rebuild what the war destroyed and rebuild the structure of the state and its institutions.

It has been clearly proven that a stable Lebanon brings calm and stability to various Arab and international interests, just as its disturbed climate brings disturbances and negative effects.

Gentlemen, loved ones, we all ask about the future Lebanon and whether this Lebanon will return after the years of war to what it used to be with regard to the constitutional powers, political function, and institutions — military, social, economic, administrative, cultural, and so forth. Will Lebanon be similar to the first wager made in the forties, or will there be a second wager in the eighties based on another historic agreement among the Lebanese? Whatever our wagers may be, a united Lebanon is the ultimate choice. The wager on Lebanon as the ultimate homeland is not among the choices. This is what was agreed upon. This is what the political and spiritual conferences agreed upon. This is what was confirmed by the firm principles, viewpoints, documents, and statements. Anything else is subject to discussion and to any reform, change, and development. However, as accepted priorities, which are not subject to any interpretations or conditions, we must endorse the following four self-evident steps here and now:

1. The concrete termination of the state of war and abidance by the cease-fire in an immediate, firm, comprehensive, and final manner.

2. The confirmation of an agreement on, a stand toward, and steps for Lebanon's unification and liberation.

3. The development of ways to facilitate understanding on reform plans on all levels and issues demanded by Lebanon's interest.

4. The formation of a national unity and salvation government that would shoulder the burdens and responsibilities demanded by the gravity and dangers of this period.

On the basis of these four steps, which govern our future moves toward the establishment of a one and ultimate Lebanon, how do I see the image of a future Lebanon which is emerging from war, rising up from the wreckage and smoke? The fire scorched Lebanon, but the flames did not burn its aspirations.

I can see it as an impregnable sovereign homeland, enjoying independent decisionmaking, stability, and independence. Our homeland deserves all that in observance of martyrdom and blood. I can see it through its people who defeated death and managed to survive, and became an example to be followed by people who face oppression, darkness, and plots with determination and stubborness, and who cling to their land, rights, and existence.

Ordeals have taught this people to exercise self-reliance and depend on their intrinsic energies and boundless potentials. I can see it belonging to the Arab homeland, interacting with its surroundings, and proud of its leading role which its surroundings appreciates. I can see it as the bearer of a message that goes beyond Lebanon's geographical boundaries, as well as the limits of the Lebanese man, to everyone in the world. That would realize the Lebanese man's free affiliation on pan-Arab, spiritual, and ideological levels.

I can see it embodying values and sublime meanings that stem from its heritage. I can also see it as a pioneer in the ideological and cultural field, complementing its historical role as part of its geographical location. I can see it unique in its characteristics, highlighting cultural qualities that interact with the unity of the homeland, ensuring every group of its rights, tranquility, and freedom of beliefs and practices.

I can see it a free democratic state enjoying a political parliamentary system and developed and effective establishments reflecting the will of the people, and protecting their affairs and serving their interests. I can see it as a society built on the bases of a free, flexible economic order, and on the bases of justice, self-sufficiency, equality, and equal opportunities in all domains for all areas, groups, sects, and individuals.

I can see it as a civilized cultural environment, in which the Lebanese enjoy civil responsibility and true citizenship, and where his rights are equal to his duties and responsibilities toward society, state, homeland, and citizens. Finally, I can see it a homeland enjoying a sound structure. It is the right of our generation, the generation of war, and future generations to enjoy a healthy and dignified homeland, as this would prove that we have performed our duty toward all generations and history.

Beloved ones: May I remind all Lebanese of my pledge. I will never back down on my pledge and oath. However, the responsibility for rescuing Lebanon and keeping the trust sound and healthy is the responsibility of us all. I hope this meeting will put an end to the march of blood and tears, and be the beginning of a new era in Lebanon.

Lebanon has had enough of waging a constant struggle against ordeals. It is our fate that we should always die for Lebanon. Long live Lebanon. [applause]

Opening Statements Noted

NC130939 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch from the Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Lausanne — live]

[Excerpts] At 1000 Swiss time, 1100 Beirut time, today, the National Dialogue Body will resume its meetings in (Liverkad) Hall in the Beau Rivage Hotel in Lausanne, Switzerland, to approve the conference agenda.

At the outset of yesterday's opening session, President al-Jumayyil delivered a speech. Following the president's speech, the minutes of the meeting of the Preparatory Committee from the first Dialogue Conference in Geneva were distributed to the conferees. Then, [former] President Camille Sham'un asked to speak. He raised the subject of the shelling of residential areas that intensified yesterday afternoon. He called for the adoption of a decision for an immediate cease-fire and for taking measures that end the mad escalation.

[Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah then spoke, beginning by thanking — in his name and on behalf of those he represents — President al-Jumayyil for abrogating the 17 May agreement. He also called for an immediate cease-fire and the formation of a committee exposing violators. He especially emphasized the need to provide guarantees to implement whatever is agreed upon during the conference.

President Franjiyah was followed by [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam, who delivered an elaborate speech in which he raised the subject of cease-fire violations and the harm that is done by violence. He said dialogue with the gun cannot build a homeland, and adding that an open and responsible national dialogue is the only way to reach an understanding on charting the course of the future Lebanon — an Arab, sovereign, free, and independent Lebanon.

After discussing the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, Prime Minister Salam said: During our first meeting, I presented specific proposals for national reforms based on fundamental Islamic principles that won national consensus. These proposals were accompanied by a detailed memorandum which I placed before you. Prime Minister Salam said that in light of the recent developments, he also presented a memorandum issued after the Islamic meeting at the mufti's office. He then presented the following list of priority subjects for debate:

1. Establishing an immediate and total cease-fire.

2. Securing an immediate release of kidnapped persons.

3. Pinpointing those responsible for the destruction that has befallen Beirut, especially the area of Ra's an-Nab', as well as the southern suburb [of Beirut] and mountain.

4. Keeping the Army away from internal conflicts and rebuilding it, and putting an end to the practices of the Deuxieme Branch.

5. Working by all means to end the Israeli occupation in a manner that will lead to liberating the homeland, buttressing national resistance forces, and consolidating their steadfastness in the south and Al-Biqa'.

6. Putting an end to any factional practices aimed at domination in all their forms.

7. Suspending the enforcement of the legislative decrees issued in 1983.

8. Abolishing the appointments, transfers, and arbitrary measures affecting certain employees in government departments and institutions.

9. Agreeing on the necessary political reforms.

10. Remedying acute social problems, including that of evacuated and displaced families.

11. Earnestly seeking to establish special relations with Arab states, especially Syria.

12. Forming a national unity government to follow up and implement all that will be agreed upon.

[Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami then asked to speak. He said the shelling involved most areas of Beirut, the southern suburb, and mountain. He urged that an end be put to this ongoing tragedy, believing that what is happening is injuring the country's reputation. Prime Minister Karami said: Time has come for us to end what is happening and think of the future of our children and country so that we may live as one family under one roof in the interest of a united Lebanon.

Phalange Party leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil then spoke. He said: The experiments we have gone through make us believe that effective forces on the ground alone can control the situation and consolidate the cease-fire.

Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri also spoke on the same subject. He supported Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil's proposal that an effective force be formed to control the situation. He then reviewed the results of the contacts carried out by the Amal Movement to reopen Beirut airport. He said all efforts made in this regard did not yield positive results, and called on the state to adopt a clear and frank stand to secure the airport's reopening.

Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt also spoke. He said a cease-fire cannot possibly be achieved as long as a few meters separate the combatants. He called for a disengagement of the warring forces. He then stressed that the Lausanne conference was convened to discuss political reforms.

[Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam then spoke a second time. He proposed the approval of four provisions, including a pledge by the conferees to establish a comprehensive and complete cease-fire so that the people may be reassured that the current meetings are effective. He also called for a revival of Security Arrangements Committee meetings and for the reopening of the crossing points [between East and West Beirut].

[Former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami interrupted by saying:- The Lebanese will take issue with the conferences in Lausanne. They will say: They have not been able to achieve a cease-fire. They have not been able to halt the killing, destruction, and devastation, so how can they achieve what is more important; namely, political reform and other issues related to Lebanon's future.

Birri then spoke again. He supported the provisions proposed by Prime Minister Salam, and added to them the need for opening the Beirut port and all the capital's crossing points. He suggested that the port and airport be regarded as neutral.

An elaborate debate on the subject followed. The Saudi Minister [of State Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud] participated in the debate. He said a cease-fire is necessary, pointing out that his country had participated in drafting a security plan. He called on everyone to adhere to this plan and implement it, believing that this will yield positive results and restore credibility to the conferees in Lausanne.

The debate then continued and it was eventually decided:

1. To establish a comprehensive and complete cease-fire in all parts of Lebanon. The parties to the Dialogue Committee [as heard] shall implement that decision.

2. To ask the Security Arrangements Committee in Beirut to meet immediately to oversee the cease-fire and discuss arrangements to disengage the warring forces. Dr Jean Ghanim, the Lebanese Front's representative on the committee, was replaced by Fu'ad Abu Nazir. Lieutenant Colonel Sharif was added to the committee as a representative of the Progressive Socialist Party.

3. To form a committee of advisers to the dialogue leaders to follow up the implementation of the cease-fire. The committee includes lawyer Haytham Jum'ah as a representative of the Amal Movement; former Minister Marwan Hamadah as a representative of the Progressive Socialist Party; Engineer Marun Hilu as a representative of the National Liberal Party; Deputy George Sa'adah as a representative of the Phalange Party; and Major General Habib Faris, the president's adviser for military affairs, and Major Muhammad al-'Ajuz as representatives of the Army.

The session was then adjourned until 1000 today.

At 2300, President Amin al-Jumayyil received [Syrian Vice President] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and congratulated him on his appointment as vice president. During the meeting, Khaddam conveyed to President al-Jumayyil Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings and wishes for the conference's success. He affirmed that Syria will support the efforts President al-Jumayyil is making to restore unity to Lebanon. The meeting was an occasion for the two to review current political and security developments. An assessment was made of Lebanese-Syrian relations following President al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus.

The committee of advisers established to discuss the security situation held a meeting that lasted until early this morning. Its discussions centered on the need to consolidate the cease-fire, open the crossing points, disengage the warring forces, and make Beirut port and Beirut airport neutral. Committee sources said a series of measures were agreed upon. These measures will be submitted to the National Dialogue Body's meeting today, since some of these measures require decisions by the leaders.

Syria's Khaddam Arrives 12 Mar

NC122027 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2017 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch from the Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Lausanne, Switzerland — live]

[Excerpt] I have just learned Syrian First Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived at the Beau Rivage Hotel 5 minutes ago. Khaddam could not participate at the opening session. The Syrian first vice president was received at the hotel's entrance by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and Lebanese delegation member Michel Samaha. Khaddam, accompanied by Dr Elie Salim and Samaha, headed for his suite.

After being briefed on the preliminary results of the first session, which focused on a cease-fire, Khaddam affirmed that the cease-fire issue should be comprehensively solved, adding that it is unreasonable that this situation — cease-fire agreements followed by violations of those agreements — should continue.

Khaddam Meets Al-Jumayyil

JN131249 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1205 GMT 13 Mar 84

[George Bashir dispatch from Lausanne]

[Excerpt] Following intensive contacts throughout last night, the National Dialogue Conference resumed its meetings at 1030 today. The second session was attended by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who arrived with the Syrian delegation yesterday evening after the opening session. Khaddam held a 1-hour meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil, during which he conveyed a message from President al-Asad.

Before the convocation of the second session, Khaddam held contacts with all sides with the aim of making them reach denominators that would eventually result in a solution to the crisis — a solution that would be backed by both the Arabs and the world.

Second Session Convenes

NC131335 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch from the Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Lausanne — live]

[Excerpts] At 1020 Swiss time, 1120 Beirut time, the second meeting of the National Dialogue Body began at (Liverkad) Hall in the Beau Rivage Hotel in Lausanne under the chairmanship of President Amin al-Jumayyil. Those attending were [former] Presidents Camille Sham'un and Sulayman Franjiyah; 'Adil 'Usayran, [former Chamber of Deputies] speaker; [former] Prime Ministers Sa'ib Salam and Rashid Karami; Pierre al-Jumayyil; lawyer Nabih Birri; and Walid Junblatt. Syrian representative 'Abd al-Halid Khaddam, first vice president, and Saudi representative Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud, minister of state, also attended. Advisers sat behind each member.

At the outset of the meeting, President al-Jumayyil welcomed Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who is accompanied to the conference by his office director, Dr Mustafa al-Haj 'Ali, and the Syrian ambassador to Switzerland, Dr Adib ad-Dawudi. President al-Jumayyil congratulated Khaddam on his appointment to the post of first vice president of the Syrian Republic and also lauded the role Syria has played in contributing to the cease-fire and convocation of the second round of the National Dialogue Conference.

Khaddam held a 1-hour meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil, during which he conveyed a message from President al-Asad.

Khaddam then delivered a speech in which he said: The conference must issue decisive resolutions that will put an end to the Lebanese tragedy. The most important resolution at present is the establishment of an immediate cease-fire with the approval of all warring parties. Khaddam said: It is not permissible for us to meet in such a comprehensive and expanded conference without emerging with positive results. Lebanon has been subjected to a wicked plot aimed at its entity, unity, and independence for years. We must put an end to this ongoing bloodshed.

Khaddam emphasized that his country supports President al-Jumayyil's position with regard to unifying Lebanon. He lauded the wise and national decision the president of the Republic made to abrogate the 17 May agreement. He pointed out that that agreement had contributed to increasing the sufferings of the Lebanese people. Discussing the responsibility of the conferees in Lausanne, Khaddam said it is a momentous and historical responsibility, and that they should not leave the conference hall before achieving practical solutions to the continuing tragedies. He affirmed that he will continue to work with the conferees in Lausanne to achieve this objective. Khaddam added: We will stay [here] 1, 2, or 3 days and even a month, but we will not get out of here without a solution. He condemned the plots being carried out by imperialism that contribute to dividing that homeland. He emphasized that Syria views Lebanon as a united, sovereign, free, and independent country.

While Khaddam was delivering his speech, journalists were asked to leave. A closed session then began, which is continuing at this hour.

Information that has been made available to us indicates the conferees will discuss points that were drawn up by the committee stemming from the opening session in which the question of a cease-fire was dealt with. The committee continued its meetings until 0330 today at the quarters of Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri at the Beau Rivage Hotel.

Five points were drawn up by the committee and will be discussed by the Dialogue Body. They are:

1. Consolidating a cease-fire by a political declaration after agreeing on a formula at the conference.

2. Securing a permanent center for the Security Committee where all parties will be represented day and night.

3. Securing cease-fire observation posts along the entire length of the contact lines on all fronts. [The posts should be manned] by a group of retired military personnel. Securing means of communication among these posts and between them and the Security Committee.

4. Disengaging forces on all fronts, and issuing a political decision ordering the Internal Security Forces to be prepared with materiel and manpower to implement this order through national service recruits.

5. Opening the [Beirut] airport and port with the adoption of any of the following two solutions with regard to the airport and port roads:

a. Charging the Internal Security Forces alone with securing the airport and port roads.

b. Having the present military units with all their men secure the airport and port roads.

The Dialogue Body is expected to deal with Articles 4 and 5 because, according to what we have learned, there has been no final agreement regarding those two articles. It was agreed to submit them to the expanded body to adopt a final decision on them, and bring the viewpoints closer after the appearance of disagreement on them.

More on Cease-Fire Negotiations, Reaction

Salam On Cease-Fire Importance

NC131204 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Following the conclusion of the first meeting of the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne, [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam made a statement. He said:

[Begin recording] [Salam] Frankly, in my opinion, the atmosphere at today's session was better than [word indistinct]. If the atmosphere at the session continues in the same spirit, I expect favorable results. However, I would like to say that everyone concentrated on the establishment of a cease-fire. I told the conferees that I will not continue to sit in this comfortable chair at the meeting hall if the gunfire, killings, house destruction, and [words indistinct] continue. The first meeting was totally dedicated to a discussion of this subject. I insisted on my stand once, twice, and three times. I said, and I repeat, that if we do not succeed in our aim of ceasing fire and halting the fighting, I will probably leave here and return to my country. I would rather die with the sons of my country than live here sitting in a comfortable chair [words indistinct].

[Unidentified correspondent] With regard to today's meeting, was it confined to the security situation? What will be discussed at tomorrow's meeting?

[Salam] Today's meetings were restricted to the security situation. I felt all the parties — those responsible for the gunmen — have the resolve and desire to establish a cease-fire and do everything in their power to achieve it. They will not declare this tonight because we have had enough cease-fire declarations, statements, and radio reports that have no effect on the ground. We want the cease-fire to be achieved even without a declaration.

[Correspondent] Are there any field steps [words indistinct]?

[Salam] Before any field steps, steps were taken here. A committee was formed to meet, even if it took it all night, and to come to us at the next session in the morning so that we could again resume the discussion on halting the fighting before discussing any other subject. I believe instructions will be sent tonight, by those responsible for the gunmen, to the gunmen in Lebanon to stop shooting, but without making an announcement to this effect.

[Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, a final question on the subjects that will be raised for discussion tomorrow, in addition to the security situation?

[Salam] There is the 12-point list that I presented today for discussion [and inclusion] on the agenda. At the outset of the session, his excellency the president also presented four items which he proposed for the agenda. There are also previous proposals for inclusion on the agenda. The president of the Republic proposed at the end of the meeting that all these points be taken into consideration and that we should decide on the agenda before beginning discussion on any subject. However, I repeat, it will be useless to continue with any discussion if we do not achieve a cease-fire. [words indistinct] Whoever carries out [the shooting] is a criminal. He is a criminal. Whether he is acting on his own behalf, on behalf of others, or on behalf of Israel is a different matter. Nevertheless, he is a Lebanese criminal. [end recording]

Security Committee Composition

NC121941 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1909 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch from the Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Lausanne — live]

[Excerpts] We again greet you from Lausanne where the National Dialogue Conference is holding its second round. We earlier reported on the decision by the conference conferees to observe an all-out cease-fire throughout Lebanon, and the agreement by all sides to implement that decision. We also reported on the authorization for the Security Arrangements Committee in Beirut to meet immediately to supervise the cease-fire, ensure a disengagement between the forces, and appoint neutral retired officers to supervise the agreement. We now point out that the committee that the National Dialogue Conference formed to supervise the cease-fire agreement is comprised as follows: lawyer Haytham Jum'ah representing the Amal Movement; former Minister Marwan Hamadah representing the Progressive Socialist Party; Deputy George Sa'adah representing the Phalange Party; and engineer Marun Hilu representing the National Liberal Party. Major Muhammad al-'Ajuz of the Lebanese Army has been authorized to join the committee. Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri will also participate in the committee's meetings. The committee is now meeting at Beau Rivage Hotel to discuss this question. Delegation leaders are contacting their representatives on the Security Arrangements Committee in Beirut for the sake of consolidating the cease-fire. I have also learned that Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri is now meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil, and that Saudi Minister of State Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud is now meeting with Rashid Karami.

Airport Reopening Controversy

NC131232 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] An official source of the Lebanese Forces has expressed satisfaction over the fact that the conferees in Lausanne are discussing the need to reopen the Beirut International Airport. The source expressed the hope that the conferees will reach agreement in this regard — an agreement that would guarantee all Lebanese the safety of reaching the airport and not only the safety of the takeoff of aircraft from the airport.

However, reports received at noon today indicate that the Amal Movement and Progressive Socialist Party continue to reject a proposal stipulating that the 4th Brigade, which is under the Army Command, take over the road to the airport and the area around it in return for the withdrawal of the allied organizations and gunmen, and 6th Brigade from the area.

Lebanese Forces on Cease-Fire

NC122059 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] An official source in the Lebanese Forces tonight said there is nothing new in the cease-fire agreement. The Lebanese Forces are abiding by the cease-fire and return fire only when Christian areas are shelled. If the other sides abide by the cease-fire, the source added, there is no need for [word indistinct].

Lebanese Forces on Committee

NC131127 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces Command has made the following statement:

In light of the reports on the National Dialogue Conference currently in session in Lausanne, the reports pertaining to the revival of the Security Arrangements Committee, and the appointment of Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir, the Lebanese Forces General Chief of Staff, as a committee member, the Command Council wishes to emphasize the following points:

1. The Lebanese Forces command affirms its sincere desire to stabilize the cease-fire in a serious and final manner.

2. The command has not received at the time of this statement's issuance any contact from Lausanne, and has not participated in any talks on how the Security Committee should be revived.

3. The command reminds everyone that it is represented in the above-mentioned committee by Dr Jean Ghanim.

4. The command reminds everyone that it is the only legitimate authority for approving any appointment or change to any committee, including the Security Arrangements Committee.

More Reportage on Opposition Statements, Policies

Junblatt Calls for Al-Jumayyil Trial

NC121425 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] In Geneva today, Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], reaffirmed his call for bringing Amin al-Jumayyil to trial to account for the massacres being committed against his people and for breaching the Constitution. Junblatt called for introducing political reform so that Lebanon can join the unified Arab homeland.

The PSP leader and Amal Movement leader have emphasized that Amin al-Jumayyil is not an arbitrator but a party to the struggle.

PSP on Army Resignations

NC121422 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] General Ibrahim Tannus, commander of the factional army, today placed his resignation at the disposal of Amin al-Jumayyil. However, what is required according to national opposition sources, is the abrogation of all the factional and arbitrary appointments, and a change in the entire policy that applies to the military establishment.

Karami On Talks

LD121543 Kuwait KUNA in English 1436 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Lausanne, 12 Mar (KUNA) — Lebanon's reconciliation talks, aiming at a political solution to end the civil war, were set to open later Monday as President al-Jumayyil and the Lebanese factions awaited the arrival of the Syrian delegation.

The resumed talks, attempting to bring about a government of national unity and a general ceasefire, have been delayed because of the late departure from Damascus of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syria's newly-appointed first vice president. But Lebanese sources said the Lausanne conference would begin at around 1600 GMT even if Khaddam had not arrived, in an apparent signal of a degree of independence from Syria's dominant role in the Lebanese crisis.

President al-Jumayyil, who called on his arrival in Switzerland Sunday for the Lebanese conference to work "for a real peace", was due to chair the talks and give an opening address that would show how far he might go on the concessions demanded by the opposition. Opposition leaders were completing their approach Monday for the negotiations, taking place at a heavily guarded luxury hotel.

Following the scrapping of the May 17 troop withdrawal agreement with Israel, and the military and political retreat by the United States, the Syrian-backed National Salvation Front and Amal Movement now [word indistinct] the way open for major reforms, including a restructuring of the Army, a broad-based government, and constitutional changes.

Rashid Karami, former prime minister and member of the Front, said Monday all the issues would be put on the table at Lausanne. The most important thing was to establish a political programme, he said, possibly leaving the question of a new government to be dealt with back in Lebanon.

Asked if he would head such a government, Karami said he would wait until he was asked.

He indicated that changes could be made without altering the Constitution, a step opposed by the rightist Christian leaders. This included having a prime minister who was no longer appointed by the president. The president could consult with members of Parliament before nominating someone, he said.

Karami also told newsmen the National Salvation Front opposed any move that led to the division of Lebanon, such as political decentralisation, but would accept administrative changes away from centralised control.

Commenting on the Lausanne conference in general, he said: "We want a solution which leads to unity, quiet, and peace." The Front's members have wanted to raise the issue of President al-Jumayyil's responsibility in the Army's shelling of civilian areas of south Beirut and the mountains. Karami commented: "One must criticise the policy in order to change it," but would not say if the Front would no longer demand al-Jumayyil's resignation. Syria has insisted that Al-Jumayyil should stay in office.

A Lebanese Government spokesman said no agenda for the Lausanne conference had yet been agreed. The seating arrangements for the talks, an issue that held up the first round in Geneva in November, would be the same as last year, he said.

Karami: Mubarak Policy 'Useful'

NC121704 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Lausanne, 12 Mar (MENA) — Rashid Karami, former Lebanese prime minister and a leader of the National Salvation Front that is participating in the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference, has described President Husni Mubarak's policy on Lebanon as realistic and useful.

Answering a question by a MENA correspondent in Lausanne, Karami added: All of us demand Lebanon's sovereignty, unity, independence, and Arabism. Karami continued: We hope Egypt and all Arab countries will be in solidarity and agreement. This requires reconsideration of past policies which led to the [Lebanese] events.

Answering a question on the possibility of establishing a federation or confederation in Lebanon, Karami said: The National Salvation Front opposes every proposal leading to the partition of Lebanon. He added: The National Dialogue Conference will result in a program of domestic reforms. A government of national unity must be formed after agreement on this program in order to implement it.

Karami affirmed that the Front and Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, do not demand the trial of Amin al-Jumayyil. "However, we demand the trial of the policies, courses, and practices which led to the calamities in Lebanon," he added.

Asked how security could be established in Lebanon, Karami said: Security depends on the unity of the Lebanese and agreement among themselves. When that is achieved, Lebanon will only need observers and not foreign forces to establish security in Lebanon. This can be achieved after we reach an agreement that will also provide for disbanding militias and collecting weapons.

Karami added that following President Amin al-Jumayyil's confirmation of Lebanon's Arab identity, and the Phalange Party's approval of the president's policy and his options, national unity comprising the majority of the Lebanese people has become practical.

Karami emphasized that security in Lebanon should be established on bases to be included in a political reform program to be agreed upon in Lausanne. That will lead to a reformation of the political system and reestablishment of stability in Lebanon.

Karami explained that the program must include definitions of the prerogatives and responsibilities of the leading positions in the government, namely, the presidency and premiership; cancellation of political sectarianism in government and administrative posts, except the grade one posts; establishment of a constitutional court to try the leaders and ministers; establishment of a court to observe the constitutional aspects of the laws and bring about a wide administrative decentralization; and the establishment of social justice on the basis of an effective, progressive taxation system.

Reportage on Contacts on Conference Sidelines

P. al-Jumayyil, Sham'un Meet French Envoy

NC131016 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] A meeting was held this morning in Lausanne between [former] President Camille Sham'un, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, and an envoy of Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations. The envoy informed Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre of France's interest in the need for the success of the Lausanne conference and for immediate political and security solutions that would put an end to Lebanon's sufferings.

Saudi Minister Meets Salam

LD121333 Riyadh SPA in English 1228 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Lausanne, March 12, (SPA) — Saudi Minister of State Mohammad Ibrahim Mas'ud met here today with former Lebanese Prime Minister Salib Salam. They reviewed the situation in the Lebanese arena and exchanged views on matters relating to the Lebanese issue.

RFL on Civil Complaints Against Junblatt

NC101828 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] A number of Lebanese jurists and lawyers have arrived in Lausanne bringing documents that include civil complaints lodged against Walid Junblatt by several Lebanese harmed by recent incidents in the mountain and by indiscriminate shelling of peaceful residential areas of East Beirut.

The complaints accuse Junblatt of harming the properties and endangering the lives of these Lebanese. They based their complaints on positions adopted and statements made by Junblatt, in which he spoke of shelling peaceful Christian areas, displacing the inhabitants, planning to destroy all of Lebanon, and closing the Beirut International Airport.

One of the Lebanese jurists, who is in charge of these complaints, has said there is an inclination to bring action against Junblatt before the International Court in The Hague, in view of his responsibility for, and open admission of, these actions in the local and international information media.

Correspondent Views Al-Jumayyil's Syria Visit

JN092107 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1750 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Report by Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus, carried within the weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Undoubtedly the abrogation of the 17 May agreement has been a historic turning point in Lebanese-Syrian relations in particular and in the region's developments as a whole. When President Amin al-Jumayyil visited the Syrian capital, we described the visit as an extremely important, historical one. We will not go into the reasons that delayed this visit for several months, but will attempt to concentrate on what took place during the visit.

Leading sources in the Lebanese opposition told us that Syrian officials repeatedly told the opposition leadership and parties that Damascus will not repeat the mistake it committed in 1976 when it became an internal party to the Lebanese reconciliation by involving itself in the issue of presenting the constitutional document that led to Syria's clash with the Lebanese nationalist parties. The opposition leaders said President al-Asad informed them following President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit that Damascus will not negotiate on behalf of its allies.

The Syrian officials' wariness, and their care not to be a main party in the process of arranging the Lebanese reconciliation was amply clear. It has been learned that President al-Jumayyil was assured that Syria will remain outside the game of internal settlement.

Opposition circles also cited Al-Asad as giving President al-Jumayyil advice to the effect that he shouldn't ignore the opposition's primary demand; namely, reconsidering the formation of the Army of which the opposition parties claim one half, and knowing that the other half is impossible to use against the opposition.

These sources said President al-Asad also advised Al-Jumayyil to not be satisfied with dealing with the constitutional document because that document would soon be obsolete.

It appears that President Amin al-Jumayyil attempted, during his Damascus visit, to secure a price for canceling the agreement. The price is said to be Syria's withdrawal from the Al-Matn area. The answer was firm: The abrogation of the agreement will not have any price and is not negotiable.

It was clear that this demand originated within the Lebanese Front which rejects the Syrian and Arab option. Although President al-Jumayyil wants to satisfy them, this will not be at the expense of Lebanon's unity. This demand is not an innocent one because it would tie Zahlah to what is called the Phalangist canton in Al-Matn and Kasrawan from one side, and the western Al-Biqa', Jazzin, and Marj 'Uyun from the other. It was considered that this price, which the Lebanese Front, or at least some parties of the Front desired as a price for canceling the agreement, falls within the partition plan. However, Damascus rejected the demand and affirmed its position on a complete Syrian withdrawal from Lebanese territory the moment Israel withdraws its last soldier from Lebanon. Damascus stressed that this will take place without any preconditions. Moreover, any discussion about a Syrian withdrawal from the Al-Matn peaks is a new maneuver, since Israel continues to occupy the Al-Baruk Mountain peak and is installing its equipment there.

Certain opposition circles told us that President al-Jumayyil attempted to discuss the withdrawal issue but the Syrian side refused and preferred that this issue be left for discussions with the national unity government to be formed after the agreement is canceled, the reconciliation agreement is reached, and internal reforms are implemented.

The Syrian side simultaneously made it clear to Al-Jumayyil that the political and military situation does not give him room to maneuver, and that he has to move quickly to convene the National Reconciliation Conference and to work for removing all the political, psychological, and military effects of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

These sources added that President al-Jumayyil was reminded that the Lebanese national reconciliation during the era of former President Ilyas Sarkis was unsuccessful because one party was cooperating with Israel, a situation Damascus would no longer accept. Syria also expressed its readiness to give the necessary guarantees to all Lebanese communities without exception, particularly the Christian community.

IDF Detains Palestinians in Al-Hulwah Camp

NC130947 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] National Resistance operations in the south are continuing and so are Israel's arbitrary measures against the steadfast sons of the south. This morning Israeli occupation forces surrounded the 'Ayn al-Hulwah Palestinian refugee camp for 3 hours. They assembled the inhabitants in the square of the government hospital, detained over 100 persons, and transported them in two trucks to an unknown destination for interrogation. However, these forces released some of them later. All this took place after a number of armed Israelis attempted to raid the camp at dawn today. The inhabitants resisted and clashes took place between the two parties for an hour.

The armed Israelis soon withdrew, but after some time, a large Israeli force of 13 tanks and armored cars surrounded the camp and attempted to detain its sons.

More on Soviet Politburo Member's Visit, Reaction

Al-Asad, Aliyev Resume Talks

JN121812 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] At 1215 today, President Hafiz al-Asad resumed the talks he began yesterday with Geydar Aliyev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the delegation accompanying Aliyev, and Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin attended the talks which revolved around the international situation, the situation in the Middle East, and issues pertaining to the development of relations and cooperation between the two sides.

Regarding the assessment of the international situation and the situation in the region, the two sides' viewpoints were identical. The Syrian and Soviet sides also expressed their satisfaction with the development of relations and the prospects for their future development.

Aliyev expressed the Soviet leadership's great appreciation — party and government — for Syria's position and its president because of the victories that Syria and the Arab and Lebanese national forces have realized. He also said the Soviet leaders are interested in the developments in the region and Syria's confrontation of the imperialist plans and the Israeli aggression. He added: We fully support Syria's trend, which constitutes an important factor for confronting the imperialist conspiracies in the region.

He also considered the success of the Lebanese nationalist forces in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and in abrogating the 17 May agreement as a positive and important element in the triumph of the will of struggle of the region's peoples. He added that this triumph is linked with the principled, firm national stand of President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian leadership. He added: The president personally deserves all the credit for realizing that triumph. Aliyev also stressed the Soviet Union's support for Syria, and Soviet interest in developing relations and cooperation with Syria in all fields. These relations have successfully developed since the conclusion of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the two sides in 1980.

The president expressed Syria's appreciation for the Soviet Union's principled positions, and said these positions have proved that the Soviet Union is a loyal friend. He added: We know that our friends in the Soviet Union strongly support us, and we greatly appreciate that position and the continued Soviet support for Syria's positions and struggle to foil plans of domination and imperialist and Zionist hegemony over the region, as well as Soviet support for the Arab nation's causes.

The president also asserted that nothing in the world can make Syria deviate from its progressive national and pan-Arab trend hostile to imperialism and Zionism; its determination to confront the plans of the enemies of Syria and the Arab nation; and from realizing the Arab masses' objectives. He also said: We will never allow the wheel of development to move backward in the region and the people's will will achieve victory in this part of the world.

Aliyev Departs 13 Mar

JN130915 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 13 Mar (SANA) — Geydar Aliyev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and the delegation accompanying him, left Damascus this morning following a 3-day visit to Syria. During the visit, Aliyev met with President Hafiz al-Asad, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar'.

Aliyev was seen off at Damascus International Airport by General Mustafa Talas, deputy prime minister and defense minister; Faruq ash-Shar', foreign minister; a number of Foreign Ministry officials; and Vladimir Yukhin, USSR ambassador in Damascus and the embassy staff.

Syrian-USSR Friendship Viewed

JN120644 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1235 GMT 12 Mar 84

[From "On the Events" program]

[Text] Syrian-USSR relations are one of the best examples of an honest friendship, a solidarity of struggle against aggression and its parties, and of how rights and justice must be championed in a manner acknowledged by international conventions and organizations which are concerned with supporting justice and championing people's causes.

This humanitarian and militant relationship between Syria and the USSR stems from Syria's evaluation of international stands in light of their support for Arab rights. As proved by events, the USSR has been and continues to be the world power that has lent the greatest support for the Arabs' right to struggle for the liberation of their usurped territories, and has been the most committed to Arab causes and to removing the Arab homeland from imperialist hegemony and the Zionist expansionist designs.

Syrian-USSR relations have developed to the extent of becoming distinctive relations. These relations have developed to such a level that they have become one of the pretexts for the imperialist-Zionist onslaught seeking to harm Arab rights and Syria's steadfastness and confrontation of the plans and schemes of the United States and Israel.

Under Comrade Struggle President Hafiz al-Asad, Syria has been eager to bring the Syrian-USSR militant relationship to what it is at present. Within this framework, there was the treaty of friendhsip and the joint stands which brought about increasing USSR support for Syria in the political, economic, and military fields. The clauses and formulae of all the hostile schemes and plans that are prepared by the United States and Israel focus on the need to harm the Syrian-USSR friendship. The most prominent example of this was the Zionist-U.S. invasion of Lebanon. In all their statements, the U.S. leaders have been emphasizing the fact that the Syrian-USSR friendship is one of the most serious threats endangering the joint strategy of the United States and Israel.

From this premise, it has been ascertained that the positive aspect of this friendship not only consists of the fact that it supports Arab rights, for which Syria is struggling, but also the fact that it has been the stand which has revealed all the U.S. cards and stands that are hostile to Arab rights. The strategic alliance document between the United States and Israel, and the agreements complementing it which were signed between the prime minister of the Zionist cabinet and the U.S. President, explicitly contain whole clauses which confirm that to support Israel's designs and schemes, U.S. and Israeli stands must be mobilized to confront the advanced relations which exist between Syria and the USSR.

Syria, which has devoted its efforts to establishing a strategic balance in the Arab nation's interest, has found in the USSR the best friend that supports such an objective. That is why the United States views what exists between Damascus and Moscow as a threat to Israel's objectives of aggression and expansionist designs.

If we place the USSR and the United States in the balance, the sons of our nation will realize that the USSR stands at our side and supports our rights from the premise of its principles of supporting the people and opposing the aggressors, while the United States is the one which has adopted stands voiding UN plans and resolutions which support Arab rights.

The USSR met the defensive needs of Syria and other Arab countries unstintedly while the U.S. warships threatened all the Arab countries. While the United States deprived the Arabs of their right to establish industrial projects, the USSR's aid was abundant and evident, and has left many traces in Syria, Egypt, Algeria, and other Arab countries.

Comrade Geydar Aliyev, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has highlighted the sincere image of the distinctive relations between Damascus and Moscow by reaffirming that the USSR's support for Syria's struggle will not be limited, and that Syria's steadfastness, which has foiled U.S. schemes in Lebanon and the region, is the militant image which the peoples in the world must copy in their efforts to bolster national independence and the march of just peace to which all peoples aspire.

AL-BA'TH Praises Relations

JN130806 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 13 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the caption "New Horizons for the Development of Syrian-Soviet Relations," *AL-BA'TH* editorializes: Two primary facts have emerged from those facts entrenched by the historic leadership of Comrade leader Hafiz al-Asad during the last 13 years of the Syrian march, and became prominent signs of the Syrian political trend. They are: First, the Syrian political trend is hostile to imperialism, Zionism, and all antagonistic maps and plans drawn up for the Middle East within the last decade with the aim of spreading U.S. hegemony throughout the entire region through cooperation, coordination, and alliance with Israel. Second, the Syrian political trend views relations with the friendly Soviet Union as a strategic option based on mutual respect and joint stands toward the willfullness and ambitions of the imperialist policy of domination, despotism, and confiscation of the peoples' right to liberation and independence.

In light of these two facts come the meetings held in Damascus during the past 2 days between the Syrian leadership under Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the Republic, and Comrade Geydar Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. Those meetings aimed at giving a new push to the Syrian-Soviet relationship following a number of tests which confirmed the solidity of that relationship and the importance of consolidating and promoting it in the service of the two friendly peoples.

If observers consider the Syrian-Soviet treaty signed in Moscow in 1980 the beginning of a new stage in the history of struggle for liberation in the Middle East under the leadership of Syria, and with the definite support of the Soviet Union, the accomplishments achieved by the Soviet-Syrian cooperation in this regard deserve to take broader horizons along the road of developing relations and bolstering joint action in a manner that will achieve further success in the battles of confrontation we are waging with the support of friends, headed by the friendly Soviet Union, against imperialism and Zionism. If the friendly Soviet Union has expressed the high appreciation of the Soviet leadership — party and government — for the role Syria and President al-Asad played in the victories that Syria and the national Arab and Lebanese forces have scored — as Comrade Aliyev said — we in Syria, as Comrade al-Asad emphasized, believe the Soviet stands have proven that the Soviet Union is a loyal friend, that it stands strongly on our side, and that we highly value this Soviet stand and continuous political support for Syria's stands.

The wheel of development will not move backward in the region, and the peoples' will triumph in this part of the world regardless of the imperialist plots.

More on Visit of USSR Central Committee Member

Tereshkova Holds Press Conference

JN121407 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus — Comrade Valentina Tereshkova, CPSU Central Committee member, chairwoman of the Soviet Women's Committee, and the first woman astronaut has asserted the Soviet Union's high appreciation for Syria's national and pan-Arab position under the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its Secretary General Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad, a position that played an important role in abrogating the agreement of submission that was imposed on the Lebanese Government. This came during a press conference held by Comrade Tereshkova last night in which she emphasized her country's full and continued support for the struggle of the Syrian people and Syrian women against the imperialist and Zionist plans.

The first woman astronaut also explained the developed steps that the Soviet women made in all fields, and reviewed their great experiences and sacrifices, which they made for their country. Comrade Tereshkova also stressed the existing close relations between the Committee of Soviet Women and the Syrian Women Federation, pointing to the exchange of expertise and ideas in the international and regional conferences and the joint activities of the Syrian and Soviet women in the Women's International Democratic Federation. Concluding her press conference, Comrade Tereshkova praised the great accomplishments that were realized in Syria in the recent years, and congratulated the Syrian people and the Syrian women on the March revolution celebrations. She also praised the continued concern of the party and the state for the Syrian women.

Departs 13 Mar

JN131303 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Valentina Tereshkova, CPSU Central Committee member, chairman of the Soviet Women's Committee, and the first woman astronaut, left Damascus this morning following a visit of several days to Syria. During the visit, she participated in the Fourth Congress of the Syrian Women General Federation, and met with a number of party and state officials.

USSR Judicial Delegation Arrives 12 Mar

JN122150 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] A USSR judicial delegation headed by Dr Vladimir Kuz'min, collegium member of the USSR Ministry of Justice, arrived in Damascus at noon today on an 8-day visit to Syria during which it will hold talks aimed at concluding a bilateral agreement between the two countries.

LE MONDE: President al-Asad 'Consolidates Power'

PM131417 Paris LE MONDE in French 13 Mar 84 pp 1,4

[Eric Rouleau article: "Syrian President Consolidates His Power"]

[Text] Competent analysts draw a crucial conclusion from the changes made at the top of the Syrian State: President al-Asad is consolidating his power to the detriment of his brother. They support their theory with the following arguments:

— Rif'at al-Asad is mentioned second of the three new deputy presidents of the Republic, while the other two are men entirely devoted to the head of state.

— The defense companies which the president's brother commanded have been dissolved, and their men scattered among the various units of the Armed Forces. Thus Rif'at al-Asad loses the tool which, according to his enemies, gave him excessive power within the state. This measure has not been announced, but prominent persons arriving from Damascus assert that it was implemented last week.

— Rif'at al-Asad's main adversaries at the head of the Armed Forces and Security Forces not only remain in their posts but, in some instances, enjoy greater prerogatives. They are Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas; Chief of Staff General Ash-Shihabi; General 'Ali Aslan, his deputy; General 'Ali Duba, director of Military Intelligence; General 'Adnan Makhluf, commander of the Presidential Guard; General 'Ali Haydar, commander of the Special Brigades; and General 'Ali Salih, commander of the Air Defense Forces.

Chief of Staff Gen Ash-Shihabi has been given the power to make the changes and appointments he deems necessary at the head of the various Armed Forces units. It is also reported that, on the head of state's authorization, General 'Ali Duba has placed Salim Barakat, private secretary to the head of state's brother, under house arrest. Thus, the mandate given to Rif'at al-Asad in his capacity as vice president of the Republic, to "supervise" the Armed Forces and security services apparently has a very relative or even theoretical value.

The conflict which has been going on between Rif'at al-Asad and the military chiefs for several months, and which led to a confrontation on 27 February which almost degenerated into a pitched battle, is not sectarian, as may have been thought. All but two of his opponents mentioned above belong, like him, to the 'Alawite community.

They accuse him, essentially, of having overweening ambitions and of wanting to succeed his brother should the latter's illness prevent him from fulfilling his duties. In this connection, they gave President al-Asad apparently irrefutable evidence and asked that the former chief of the defense companies be given a foreign ambassadorial appointment.

After a long and stormy showdown with his brother, the head of state did not want to go to such extremes. He preferred to arbitrate by imposing a "compromise" solution which at least preserved appearances.

It is true that President al-Asad probably had other reasons for curbing his brother's powers. According to a reliable source, one reason was connected with the conduct of foreign policy — the head of state's "preserve." According to some of our informants, Rif'at al-Asad was not only trying to discredit the leading role of the ruling Ba'th Party, but had also formed a circle of politicians and military figures favorable to a more open approach to the United States and its Arab allies in the Near East.

President al-Asad apparently made a clear reference to that "capitulatory" trend during a recent Ba'th leadership meeting. According to a prominent person close to that party, he stated: "People must realize once and for all that our alliance with the Soviet Union is strategic. All others are merely tactical."

Az-Zu'bi Cables Al-Asad on March Revolution

JN121822 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] On the 21st anniversary of the glorious March Revolution, People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi sent a cable of congratulations to President Hafiz al-Asad in which he praised the accomplishments that this revolution has realized on more than one level and in more than one field. He also praised struggler President Hafiz al-Asad's historic leadership, which played an important role in sparking and strengthening the March Revolution and abrogating the 17 May agreement.

In his cable, the People's Assembly speaker also asserted that leader Al-Asad's policy will force imperialism and its allies to reconsider their aggressive policy in the region, and form an Arab trend to undermine Camp David and policies of domination and hegemony forever.

Khaddam Leaves For Lausanne Conference 12 Mar

JN121946 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam left Damascus for Lausanne this afternoon to participate in the second round of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference, which opened in Lausanne this evening in the presence of the various Lebanese parties. The agenda of this round contains issues concerning the normalization of the situation in Lebanon; means to reach a cease-fire agreement; the definition of general principles for solving the Lebanese domestic dispute; and the formation of a government of national unity.

Observers have asserted that the resumption of the Lebanese national dialogue is possible following the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. Official Arab circles also pointed out that this round will take place at a time when a portion of Lebanese territory is under Israeli occupation, and the Army of the U.S. interference on board the U.S. 6th Fleet is stationed off the Lebanese coast.

AL-BA'TH on Attempts To Foil Lausanne Conference

JN130855 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 13 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Regarding the developments in the Lebanese arena, our newspapers today highlight the beginning of the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne and Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's participation in the second session today.

In a commentary today, *AL-BA'TH* says: Israel began its political maneuver, taking shelter behind U.S. support, with the aim of subjugating southern Lebanon to permanent occupation. The Western press, which is committed to supporting the Israeli steps, paved the way for the Zionist idea. Therefore, it called southern Lebanon the northern bank — a name approved by the Zionist Herut Party at its recent congress.

The Zionist and pro-Zionist Western organs are competing to present ideas and voice allegations aimed against Lebanon's unity and independence at a time when the United States is unleashing a propaganda campaign asserting that Lebanon cannot be united except in the way desired by the United States and approved by Israel. All these allegations and campaigns which cast doubt on Lebanon's ability to safeguard its unity are aimed at undermining the Lausanne efforts to bring about the success of the Lebanese national dialogue, since this dialogue is the Lebanese people's road to security and unity. The Zionist and U.S. allegations are exposed attempts to strike at the Syrian concern for Lebanon — land and people — depicting the decision on Lebanon's salvation from its woes as a decision in the hands of Israel first, and subject of the U.S. will second.

It is no secret to observers that Israel and the United States are trying to belittle the national and pan-Arab victory scored by the Lebanese through Syria's backing and support. In the meantime, these two allies are trying to depict the Syrian stand as incapable of liberating southern Lebanon. Once again, the Americans and their Zionist allies are wrong in their calculations. The Lebanese people and Syria, which are supported by the Arab masses, are waging a war of liberation whose pains and results are well known to the Zionists due to the large number of their dead in this war. Moreover, Syria will not adopt a step before ensuring its success and victory. Israel is not only occupying south Lebanon. Syria knows that its battle with Israel will not end except after the liberation of the entire usurped Arab soil.

Syria is well aware of the present and future objectives of the Zionists' attempts to pave the way for entrenching their occupation of southern Lebanon as indicated in their statements through the Israeli and world news media. But has the United States forgotten that the owners of rights are stronger, and that the Syrian and Lebanese peoples waged the war of liberation from one trench during their fighting against the colonialists? The answer to this question is sufficient to emphasize that liberating southern Lebanon is the essence of the comprehensive strategy Syria drew up for the liberation of every inch of the occupied Arab territory.

Communists Welcome Abrogation of 17 May Agreement

PM121433 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 6 Mar 84 pp 1,11

[SANA report: "Syrian Communist Party: Fall of 17 May Agreement Great Triumph for Syrian Policy"]

[Text] Damascus — The Politburo of the Syrian Communist Party affirmed at its recent meeting in Damascus to study developments of the situation in Lebanon and the area that these developments, which have lead to the liberation of West Beirut, the departure of the U.S. Marines, and the fall of the 17 May agreement with Israel, are great victories for the Lebanese nationalist forces, the steadfast Syrian nationalist policy, and the whole Arab liberation movement and a major blow to the U.S. imperialist policy in the area.

In a statement issued the day before yesterday the Politburo said that no Lebanese regime can be established and no stability can be achieved in Lebanon by relying on Israeli protection and imperialism or on the basis of isolation from the Arabs.

The Politburo said in its statement that the possibility of launching a U.S.-Israeli aggression against the Lebanese nationalist forces and the Syrian forces in Lebanon still exists. Attempts to divide the nationalist movement and incite sectarian differences are still actively being made by the United States, Israel, and their agents.

In its statement the Politburo lauded the Soviet Union, saying: The Soviet Union is the true friend loyal to the struggle of peoples for their freedom and their dependable support for repelling imperialist aggression against them and the threat to their sovereignty and independence.

The statement condemned the suspect attempts by the Jordanian regime which aim to liquidate the PLO and do away with its right to represent the Palestinian Arab people and to liquidate the Palestinian problem as part of the capitulationist plans.

Damascus Radio Calls on Egypt To Emulate Lebanon

JN121645 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The abrogation of the 17 May agreement has opened the door for positive developments in the region. These developments will be created by the Arab masses and the Arab forces that reject U.S. domination and Israeli control. The Lebanese example has proved that the U.S. capabilities in this region of the world, as well as in other regions, are quite limited; that the United States is not able to do everything, impose everything, or decide the course of developments. The Lebanese example has proved that the Israeli military machine, which is backed and strengthened by the United States to become the U.S. big stick and tool to implement the U.S. policy, can be an aggressive power, capable of launching aggression, invasion, and occupation, but cannot decide the struggle between the Arabs on the one hand and imperialism and Zionism on the other in favor of the United States and Israel.

Even the Israelis do not differ on the fact that Israel realized a military victory in Lebanon in 1982, when there were no forces in that country that were a match for the Israeli forces, but eventually suffered a big defeat whose consequences will appear in the region and inside Israel in the future. The Lebanese example has also proved that those who are holding to the U.S. promises and credibility in the Arab arena are holding to water or to thin air. The successive U.S. Administrations have never been truthful with the Arabs. They have not even rewarded those Arabs who surrendered to their will and desires and deviated from the will of their people. All of these Arabs reaped only frustrations and ignominious results. They were deceived and forced to make further concessions and retreat before the Israeli gains. No Arab ruler, regardless of the concessions he made to the United States, could draw the support of the successive U.S. administrations in convincing Israel of the need to accept the minimal legitimate Arab demands — namely its withdrawal from the territories it has occupied and its recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights. If the United States itself rejects the principle of Israel's complete withdrawal from the Arab territories that were occupied in 1967 as well as the national rights of the Palestinian people, how can it persuade Israel to accept them?

Before the Lebanese experiment and before the Lebanese president and Council of Ministers abrogated the 17 May agreement following a series of disappointments as a result of the U.S. stand, we had Anwar as-Sadat's experiment in Egypt. As-Sadat's experiment with the United States did not leave any room for arguments or any possibility of defending As-Sadat's trivial idea, namely, that 99 percent of the cards of the solution were in U.S. hands; that the United States is qualified to and capable of convincing Israel of the need to solve the national issues of those Arab countries whose territories or some of them are occupied by Israel, and to solve the pan-Arab problem. As-Sadat's experiment proved that to hand over the cards to the United States means handing them over to Israel, renouncing the national will and independence, and opening the door for various kinds of Israeli invasions.

The Egyptian people have discovered this fact in their own way. Therefore, they have always been against As-Sadat's policy, against the Camp David agreements, and against the policy of normalization, which would lead to opening the door of Egypt to the Israeli invasion. The Egyptian people have always been against separating Egypt from the Arabs and attaching it to the U.S. and Israeli bandwagon.

It may be said that the Egyptian regime during President Husni Mubarak's era has embarked on certain practices that are not in harmony with As-Sadat's era. However, this regime is still in need of embarking on the inevitable step, namely, severing the ties that bind it to the As-Sadatist era, and restoring Egypt's natural position and leading role among the Arab ranks by getting rid of the Camp David agreements, of all their consequences, and of all the restrictions that these agreements have imposed on Egypt's will, independence, sovereignty, and Arab commitments.

This step is required of Egypt. The weak, dismembered Lebanon is not stronger or more capable than Egypt. If Egypt takes this step, it will find Syria and all the Arabs at its side. It will find all the Arab doors open before it.

Palestine Broadcast on 'Arafat Visit To Amman

JN120702 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Palestine broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brothers on the road of revolution and liberation: 'Arafat returned to Amman. He said that his surprise return to Amman was linked to the events in the region, that it will be a continuation of the talks he had held with King Husayn, and that it comes after the 2-day meeting between him and the pillars of his rightist leadership.

The correspondents in Amman immediately linked 'Arafat's new visit to Amman with Washington's declaration to compose a new alliance that includes the United States, Israel, the Jordanian regime, and the Iraqi and Egyptian regimes according to the U.S. Administration's plans. Has 'Arafat come to Amman to guarantee for himself a place in the new alliance and to show the Americans his unwavering abidance to their policy?

Circles close to the ruling regime in Jordan answer this question by saying that 'Arafat will inform King Husayn of his agreement to participate in the new alliance with his supporters since this alliance aims at fighting the so-called Syrian danger, and, specifically, the danger of the steadfastness and confrontation position adopted by Syria against all those who join the road of the capitulatory settlement, especially after they have been disappointed by the abrogation of the 17 May agreement in Lebanon and after the United States was forced to withdraw the Marines from Beirut.

Yasir 'Arafat has chosen to become one of the horses of imperialism and one of its tools in the region. He has forgotten that imperialism and Zionism and to liberate Palestine. 'Arafat's forgetfulness of facts has reached the stage of employing the agent village leagues — which are tools invented by Israeli intelligence — in his service after the masses in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip demonstrated against him and demanded his downfall.

'Arafat and his supporters have thus fallen. The masks have also fallen off their faces. But our Palestinian revolution will remain, and will continue in its stubborn struggle for liberation. The languid and the fallen will only face shame, disgrace, and defeat.

Shamir Reports to Knesset on IDF Redeployment

TA121516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The prime minister has said that the size and length of stay of the IDF deployment in southern Lebanon will be determined by our requirements to secure our border and prevent hostile groups from organizing. The IDF deployment in southern Lebanon will only change if circumstances change. Israel will continue its efforts to have local southern Lebanese organizations take care of security and order. Mr Shamir thus delivered a report to the Knesset on the activities of his ministry, and the Knesset is currently engaged in a political debate.

Shamir, Peres Comment

TA121555 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1525 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Report from the Knesset by Gil'ad Mishori — live from the Knesset]

[Text] As expected, the prime minister and foreign minister, who reported on the activities of his ministries, focused on the Lebanese issue. There was nothing new that deviates from what we have been hearing over the past few weeks. Shamir said we are examining ways of maintaining security without having a massive IDF presence there.

[Begin Shamir recording] According to the agreement with the Lebanese Government, the regular Lebanese Army was supposed to station a unit in the south, incorporating the local militias. That force would have assumed responsibility for securing the area, including coordination and cooperation with IDF elements. However, since a central Lebanese administration, independent and free of Syrian diktat no longer exists, we will sustain and even reinforce our efforts — in cooperation with the local population — to allow local elements to maintain security and public order. This job is not easy, and cannot be undertaken too quickly or rashly. These units must be based on good will and cooperation on the part of the local population and its leaders. [end recording]

The prime minister said that Israel will do its job insofar as its security is concerned using the means and tools that are at its disposal. He described the past 12 months as a year of stabilizing and improving Israel's foreign relations.

Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, who addressed the Knesset immediately after him, discounted that statement, saying no improvement has been made and no progress has been marked in foreign relations. This is a government that refrains from making decisions, Peres said.

[Begin Peres recording] There is an ongoing argument over when the IDF should be evacuated from Lebanon: Now or later. The argument that should be waged, however, is over when the government should decide, not when to vacate the IDF. You have been dragging the decision out for months on end, you cannot make up your minds. We are not talking about a change, we are talking about a decision! This is a government devoid of the capability to decide, and with no firm opinion. Every Sunday at the Cabinet session it is either that the military echelon is not prepared, or the political level is considering the various options. Sometimes the political level must assume both the political and military responsibility, and make up its mind. [end recording]

We should withdraw from southern Lebanon, Peres said, since our continued stay there — even if terrorists are not there now — will bring terrorists to that area. The debate on the activities of the prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry is still underway.

Further on Peres Speech

TA121613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] At the Knesset political debate, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said that what Israel needs in Lebanon is a deterrent system, and the deployment of the local forces on a line up to 30-km from our border. In that case, the IDF will be able to come back home. If we obtain information that the terrorists are returning there, we will cross the border and ward them off. MK Peres criticized the Cabinet's indecisiveness, and wondered why it spent $40 million on the Al-Awwali line if it had already decided to withdraw from it.

Shamir Remarks on Jordan

TA130753 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Mar 84 pp 1, 2

[Report by Knesset correspondent Aryeh Rubinstein]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said yesterday that Israeli forces would remain in southern Lebanon in such numbers and for as long as necessary to ensure the security of the country's northern border. He made no other reference to reports in the last few days of an intention to redeploy the troops. Shamir was reporting, in the context of the budget debate, on the activities of the prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry.

He said the government is intensifying its cooperation with the local Lebanese population, with the aim of turning over to them the responsibility for maintaining law and order. In this effort, Shamir said, Israel is emphasizing and exploiting its joint interests with the local population.

Shamir said the Camp David framework accords remain the only agreed basis for solving the question of the status of the Arab residents of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, on the one hand, and for arriving at peace with Jordan, on the other. When Jordan is ready for peace, Israel would set up no obstacles to negotiations, on the basis of Camp David, with the aim of establishing autonomy and achieving a peace treaty.

"We believe that the Jordanian rulers know well that the PLO constitutes a danger and an obstacle to them and to peace negotiations," Shamir said. "When this obstacle is removed, the way will be open for understanding and cooperation with our neighbour to the east."

Shamir said there was "no justification and no logic" for the absence of relations between Israel and the Soviet Union. He called on the Soviet authorities to end the anti-Semitic campaign there "which is conducted under the mask of anti-Zionism."

Referring to Israel's ties with the Disapora, Shamir said that with assimilation gnawing away at Jewish communities throughout the world, immigration must be "at the very top in the order of national priorities."

Alignment Chairman Shim'on Peres said the government was not actively seeking peace with Jordan. First of all, the government should coordinate its policy with the U.S. just as Jordan and the PLO were already trying to do, he said.

The Alignment does not presume to say that the Arabs want peace, but it does know that they need peace. As-Sadat came to Jerusalem because he needed peace, Peres said. If the government offers peace to Jordan and it refuses, what has Israel lost, he said.

Peres charged the government with setting up two obstacles to peace with Jordan. First, it insists that Jordan agree in advance to accept the Camp David accords as a basis for negotiations, even though Jordan has every right to reject them, he said.

Secondly, the government refuses to admit that Security Council Resolution 242 (with its provision for the return of territories captured in the six day war) also applies to the West Bank.

If Jordan is prepared to talk peace on the basis of 242, Israel should agree. And if Amman prefers to talk on the basis of the Reagan plan, Israel should agree to that too, even though there is opposition here to many of its provisions.

"If you don't take the first step towards peace, you block any chance of ever achieving it," Peres said.

Shamir, in his reply, challenged Peres's allegation that the government was blocking peace talks with Jordan. He suggested that Peres ask King Husayn on what basis he would like to negotiate with Israel.

"He doesn't even accept the Allon plan," Shamir said. "And he says that he will not yield one metre of Jerusalem or of the West Bank."

On Lebanon, Shamir said, there was really basic agreement between the Likud and the Alignment on when it would be feasible to withdraw the IDF and on what security arrangements to make — so that Peres's sharp words on the subject were uncalled for.

Shamir Meets French Minister Fabius 12 March

TA121638 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] France wants to set up a joint committee that will examine that possibility of greater scientific and technological cooperation with Israel, Laurent Fabius, the French minister of industry and research, told Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir during their meeting this morning. The Israeli commerce and industry minister participated in the meeting. They also discussed regional problems and Israel's concern for its future in the EEC. Our correspondent Hemi Bar-Yosef brings additional details:

[Begin recording] In the course of the meeting, which lasted about 90 minutes, the French minister, Laurent Fabius, raised a proposal that greatly pleased his Israeli hosts. He suggested that a joint Israeli-French committee be established to examine possibilities for greater scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reacted by saying that such a committee could truly help improve good ties between the countries. The prime minister also reviewed regional problems, events in Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war, and Israel's relations with Egypt. The French minister, we were told, did not carry any political message to Israel from President Mitterrand.

Another topic that was broached was Israel's apprehension over its status in the EEC after Spain and Portugal join. After the meeting, Laurent Fabius said the following about this:

The issue is problematic. We are about to adopt concrete resolutions on the matter. But in any case, he said, we will take joint action with Israel to prevent your interests from suffering. However, he added immediately after, naturally we will not want to harm the framework of the EEC. [end recording]

Rosenne Comments on Relations With Egypt

TA121716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Israel's ambassador to the United States believes that Egypt's conduct will make Israel think twice before negotiating with other Arab countries. Reacting to remarks made yesterday by President Mubarak to a U.S. television network, Me'ir Rosenne accused Egypt of having violated the Camp David accords many times. He cited as an example the total freeze imposed on bilateral commerce and tourism. Ambassador Rosenne was addressing a meeting of young Jewish leaders in Washington.

Tourism Minister on Egyptian Agreement Violations

TA101210 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] The tourism minister will demand that the Foreign Ministry protest Egypt's violation of the bilateral tourism agreement. According to Minister Sharir, an Egyptian official disclosed over the weekend — for the first time in the media — that the Egyptian Government is not allowing citizens of that country to visit Israel. He himself, Sharir said, will continue to urge Israelis to visit Egypt, and the Israel Tourism Office in Cairo will continue to operate.

Minister Pat Interviewed on Egyptian Talks

TA110812 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Telephone interview with Industry and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat in Cairo by anchorman Mikha Friedman]

[Text][Friedman] Good morning. Is this a sign of normalization, about which we have complained so much recently, that you are in Cairo and can talk with us so freely? What are you doing there?

[Pat] Let us hope that this visit indeed is an indication that normalization is being implemented. I arrived here on Friday afternoon, at the invitation of the Egyptian Government, to participate — together with other ministers from all over the world — in the opening of the Cairo fair. We have a pavilion here which may be modest, in which only 28 companies are represented. But perhaps as a result of the visit, the invitation, and the talks I will hold here — and the ones I held on Friday afternoon, last night — there will be a greater willingness to improve bilateral trade.

[Friedman] Are your talks only about trade and commerce?

[Pat] No, I would hardly say that. Although I discussed matters related to trade issues with the agriculture minister, the long conversation I held last night with Mustafa Khalil was largely devoted to issues pertaining to political problems. This morning I will meet with Butrus Ghali and later I will meet with Mustafa Kamil as-Sa'id Ibrahim, who is the economy and foreign trade minister here, and who is hosting me and all the other ministers visiting here. In the afternoon, I will meet with Kamal Hasan 'Ali. Naturally, both in the talks with Butrus Ghali and with Kamal Hasan 'Ali the main topic will be political issues, and naturally I will try very hard to eliminate the distinction drawn between economic-commercial issues and political issues. If I can do that, then the results of my talks here will be better.

The very fact that we are here, that our flag flies here, and there is great openness — and the fact that I and other ministers from all over the world are holding meetings here — could possibly be another indication that normalization is on the way, although I will continue to express very cautious hopes in my statements.

Pat Returns From Egypt

TA130640 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Egypt is awaiting an Israeli gesture on one of the issues in dispute between the two countries. This was the impression received by Industry and Trade Minister Gid'on Pat who has returned from talks in Egypt with local officials. In the talks, the Egyptians emphasized that there was no chance for a thaw in the relations as long as there is no development in one of the issues in dispute between the two countries. Minister Pat was in Cairo as a guest of the Egyptian Government for the opening of the international trade fair. Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports:

[Begin recording] [Einstein] After a 48-hour visit during which he held 12 hours of talks with officials in Cairo, Gid'on Pat returned to Israel; but he did not bring back any good news. The Egyptians would rather keep peace on a low flame. Minister Pat got the impression that there is no chance for a breakthrough in Israeli-Egyptian relations in the near future. The light at the end of the tunnel cannot be seen for two main reasons: parliamentary elections scheduled to be held in Egypt at the end of May; and the constraints stemming from Egypt's intention to reenter the Arab world.

In his talks with Butrus Ghali, Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, and former Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil, who is currently an adviser to Mubarak, Minister Pat heard understanding for Israel's positions regarding its presence in Lebnaon. However, it emerged at the same time, that the Egyptians have several complaints against Israel.

[Pat] Contrary to what is thought, Lebanon is not always the issue. In my opinion, Lebanon is an excuse. They are upset by the issue of the Coptic church in the Old City of Jerusalem, making some progress on the Tabah issue, the question of the Canada Camp in Al-'Arish, and so on. They claim that there are 20 other issues similar to these which must be solved.

[Einstein] The industry and trade minister tried to convince the Egyptians that the low in political relations between the two countries need not affect economic ties. It has emerged that the Egyptians have translated the cold peace into hindering trade relations between the two countries. Why do you buy shoelaces in Holland when you can buy it from us much cheaper? Why do you buy chicken coops from us through the mediation of a British agent, a process which certainly increases the cost of the deal? Through these questions, Minister Pat tried to illustrate to his Egyptian interlocutors that there was no economic logic in the link they had established between political relations and commercial ties.

Nevertheless, Minister Pat came back encouraged about the excellent atmosphere that prevailed throughout his talks in Cairo. [end recording]

Israeli Reportedly Meets With Junblatt in Geneva

TA121840 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Mar 84 p 4

[Report from Lausanne by Sari Robert, Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay, and London correspondent Y. Finkelstone]

[Excerpts] Lebanese sources have told the *MA'ARIV* correspondent in Lausanne that "Israeli representatives conferred over the weekend with Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt in Geneva."

The report on Junblatt's meetings with an Israeli representative, who is staying in a hotel in Geneva, was highly debated yesterday by the representatives of the Christians and Phalangists who came to Lausanne. Junblatt is the only delegate who is not staying in the hotel where the reconciliation conference will take place, but chose instead a separate hotel closer to Geneva, where he stayed during the earlier rounds of talks.

A Phalangist representative to the talks told the *MA'ARIV* reporter that "Israel has stabbed President al-Jumayyil in the back."

Geneva Spokesman Denies Meeting

TA121843 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The Israeli newspaper *MA'ARIV* reports that an Israeli envoy had a meeting with Druze leader Walid Junblatt yesterday, at a hotel in Lausanne place [as heard]. However, a spokesman for the Israeli mission in Geneva said he knew nothing of such a meeting.

David Levi on Political, Government Affairs

TA091550 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Mar 84 p 20

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister David Levi by correspondent Refa'el Mann, "this week," date and place not given: "I Am Convinced That in the Coming Days, the Cabinet Will Decide on a New Deployment in Lebanon"]

[Text] [Mann] It was publicized that the Lebanese Government is proposing to hold discussions with Israel on an alternative agreement to the one abrogated this week, an agreement which would deal with security arrangements in southern Lebanon. In your opinion, is there room for complying with this appeal?

[Levi] Such a meeting with the Lebanese would be interpreted as if we let the official abrogation of the agreement go unnoticed; namely, an Israeli consent to the abrogation of the agreement. There is no political wisdom in this, nor is it useful. In addition, any talk with the Lebanese will be on matters which require Al-Asad's approval.

On matters which concern our security, we need no one's consent or approval. Following the annulment of the accord, Israel is free to adopt the moves called for by its concern for the security of its settlements, and Israel will indeed do so.

[Mann] In other words, will the security arrangements be based on a unilateral Israeli act, and will it not be necessary to try to anchor them in a new agreement with the Lebanese Government?

[Levi] What guarantee do we have that they will implement an accord which is smaller in size and content that the one abrogated? We will not lie to ourselves. At the same time, I am in favor of continued dialogue. I am opposed to severing any relationship. We should maintain links with elements that are close to Israel and which want continued ties with us.

[Mann] How should we challenge the Syrian success manifest in the abrogation of the accord?

[Levi] The Syrian success was a result of the weakness of the Lebanese regime. We warned against this conduct, and we foresaw the developments. However, Al-Jumayyil did not show a willingness to achieve the attainable goal of uniting all the factions. At the time, he could have set up that kind of government which he is going to set up today by Syrian dictate and amidst a river of blood, debris, and destruction. The second weakness was that of the United States, which began with a firm and resolved position, and shifted into a position of tiredness in face of the deception and promises by Saudi Arabia and others.

As for what looks like Syrian success: They tasted this years ago and paid a heavy price in return. I suggest that the Syrians be allowed to get entangled in Lebanon. There are initial indications for what I am saying already. The attitude toward the Syrians as an occupier will change. The anti-Al-Jumayyil glue, once gone, will turn into a quagmire in which Syria will wallow, up to its neck.

[Mann] What lessons should we draw in our relations with Washington from the weakness the Americans revealed in Lebanon?

[Levi] We did not base our security on this or that attempt by the Americans. It is Israel which makes the decisions. As for our relations with the United States, I am not suggesting that this will lead us to second thoughts. We cannot undermine the need for stronger relations and dialogue between us and the United States. We should stand up, argue, and criticize so that no more mistakes are made in future; but I do not belong to those who want to teach the United States a lesson.

[Mann] What should Israel do now unilaterally, after the agreement with Lebanon has been abrogated?

[Levi] First and foremost, we should implement the best deployment from our viewpoint, with two major components: Maximum security, and minimum presence. This may be possible by combining efforts with elements in southern Lebanon that are loyal to Israel and that view the Syrians and terrorists as enemies.

[Mann] Are they Christians and Shi'ites?

[Levi] They are elements in the area with whom it is possible and worthwhile to form the security belt necessary for Israel.

[Mann] What about UNIFIL?

[Levi] The problem is not whether we like or dislike UNIFIL. The question is the degree of its effectiveness, whether we can rely on some points in the area and whether there is willingness to combine the two [sentence as published]. We should give our attention to this and create the appropriate conditions.

We should beware of the statement that we will be in Lebanon "for years." When one says we will be there "for many years," I would call this fatalism.

[Mann] Do you see a situation in which the local elements and UNIFIL will relieve us of the need to be present in southern Lebanon?

[Levi] In a situation where there is no strong regime in Lebanon, there are no strong and stable elements, it is impossible to talk of abandoning everything or of a general lack of intervention.

Whoever thinks so is taking things too easily. We should remember that by its nature, the IDF is a deterrent force whose power and uniqueness lie in its sophistication and freedom of action, in its surprise approach and mobility. It is in this that the IDF has always proven effective, with the other side being the worried one.

The IDF, as a large and immobile force, loses these advantages. It becomes a target for tiny forces which preoccupy, harrass, and attack it.

The IDF General Staff should propose, according to its expertise, a plan based on the principles guiding the IDF. We should also refrain from being in an area with a high density and hostile population.

[Mann] Talk of a new IDF deployment in Lebanon has gone on for weeks and perhaps even months now. What is delaying the decision?

[Levi] We are examining all military and political aspects of the various alternatives. As long as there was hope that the accord would stand, a unilateral move might have served as a cause for its abrogation. This was one of the elements of the internal struggles we had on this matter. I am convinced that the Cabinet will decide on this issue in the coming days.

[Mann] Some claim that the Cabinet has so far found it difficult to decide, or perhaps it was unable to decide.

[Levi] I know these arguments. Should the Cabinet have endangered the accord just to prove it is capable of making a decision? However, the conditions are now ripe for a realistic view of the situation and for decisionmaking.

[Mann] Are you pleased with the way the Cabinet is handling the Lebanese issue and the manner in which the relevant issues are discussed?

[Levi] One expresses his opinion and tries to influence people, just as everyone else is entitled to do. All in all, the government has expressed its position: It does not want to remain in Lebanon.

[Mann] Nevertheless, the IDF has been present in Lebanon for 22 months already.

[Levi] The IDF is not having a picnic in Lebanon. It had to destroy the infrastructure which threatened our settlements and defeat the enemy, and this was indeed done. We also had hope for the accord which was achieved and then violated. No complaints should be addressed to us for trying to achieve an accord with Lebanon and for conducting long negotiations on this. We tried, and now we should make the decisions warranted by Israel's security.

[Mann] As a person who sat in the Cabinet throughout the war, do you not now have the feeling that all hopes for a strong Lebanese regime, for an accord, and for the removal of the Syrians are now being shattered?

[Levi] The PLO is collapsing, its infrastructure has collapsed. This goal has been achieved. We also had to try to conduct negotiations for the achievement of an accord. If we do not always try to do this we will live by the sword forever. One should try and not despair of attempts to reach agreements.

[Mann] How should Israel react to the renewed contacts between Husayn and 'Arafat? Is this the beginning of a new process?

[Levi] I do not see a new process. There were processes in the past which disappeared, processes seeking something which does not exist and to which Israel is no party.

The Americans too understand this: Disavowing the Camp David agreement to which they are signatory is a grave act, and not only from the point of view of Israel — which is the most stable and friendly element the United States has — not only in this region, but throughout the world perhaps. Any attempt to seek anything behind our back will simply not get our cooperation. Anything which concerns us and to which we do not agree, anything which contradicts existing accords, cannot be the beginning. It is the end.

[Mann] Do you not foresee tension on this issue with the United States, especially after the election there is over?

[Levi] I do not forsee tension, since the Americans too have realized that certain moves made behind Israel's back did not yield any fruits. It is doubtful whether the Americans view any process as a substitute for the agreement they signed. I do not see a crisis with the United States. The relations are good and there can be argument between friends. Israel does not let go of anything which concerns its existence and future, and the United States is well aware of this.

[Mann] You have emerged lately in opposition to the government on an increasing number of issues in the economic and foreign spheres. Does this not damage the Cabinet of which you are a member?

[Levi] I do not accept this terminology of "opposition to the Cabinet." What am I? Opposition to myself? According to my concept, the opinion I express is a contribution to the approach that advocates maximum understanding among Cabinet members. The right to argue, to try to convince others, is also a duty as far as I am concerned, until a decision is made by the Cabinet. When the decision is made I defend this decision.

I do not think this is damaging. On the contrary, I believe this is positive. In the economic sphere, for instance, I emphasize that an economy without social sensitivity will make us go back, will create problems which we will later have to cope with by way of extinguishing fires. I do not like fires and I do not like to lose chances. If anybody sees me on this as opposition, I would say I will always object to anything which seems to me to lead to failure.

[Mann] Are you still seeking the foreign affairs portfolio? Where do the discussions stand between you and the prime minister on this issue?

[Levi] The relations between the prime minister and myself are good and fruitful. We hold consultations, and harmony has been established in our relations. Rules have been determined by him, and tight contacts have developed for discussing problems and updating each other on all matters, on an almost regular basis. There are matter-of-fact meetings on all subjects. This dissipates that fog which had almost emerged without either of us wanting it. I am glad about this development. I will do my best so that it is even more strongly realized.

As for the foreign affairs portfolio, the prime minister knows my opinion, but I also know his problems, and his problems are naturally also problems which concern me. I am trying to help him overcome difficulties and I would not want the appointment, as much as I want it, to cause problems for the prime minister.

[Mann] When will the next elections be held, in your estimation? Will they take place in November 1985 or earlier?

[Levi] It is hard to predict. I hope we will be able to overcome the difficulties and problems. If we manage to maintain the framework which depends on firm parliamentary support, then it is natural that we will aspire to end the term as it is by law. What may happen? This does not depend only on what one wants.

[Mann] Will there be a renewed contest between you and Mr Shamir on the candidacy for prime minister before the next elections are held, when they are held?

[Levi] I am not in the status of a candidate who is waiting. There was a contest and a decision was made. This is behind me. We have a prime minister and he is my prime minister. Nobody can tell what will happen in due course. I will make my decision then. At the moment it is my duty to do everything to see the government succeed. It is impossible to say whether I will want to be a candidate in any situation. This question does not preoccupy me at all.

Levi Interview With Schiffer

TA101109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Interview with David Levi, deputy prime minister and housing and construction minister, by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer — date and place not given; recorded]

[Text] [Schiffer] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, the Lebanese Government announced last week the abrogation of the accord with Israel. Do you think Israel got the short end of the stick?

[Levi] There is disappointment over the abrogation, but the game is not yet over. We would have preferred to implement the agreement so as to create a new situation between us and Lebanon. This did not work out for a number of reasons over which we had no control. At the same time, Israel will take the necessary steps to secure its settlements and will pursue ties with groups close to us, on which we depend and which are the basis of hope for securing our northern settlements.

[Schiffer] When will this happen? We are not talking about withdrawing or fleeing. Yet when will we know the dates, about which people have been talking for such a long time, for redeployment and reliance on local forces — when will this occur?

[Levi] This is precisely the question the Cabinet is debating, as well as plans to guarantee maximal security with a minimal presence. The question of redeployment is something that should be finalized in a proposal by the IDF's General Staff Headquarters and submitted to the Cabinet, with the security aspect playing the central role in all debates and in every proposal that might be raised. Certainly we should not take care of security alone; it is a job that local forces should do for themselves as well. Nonetheless, our guideline is not to create a situation that will force us to launch yet another war. This must be based on a redeployment that will have, first, a sound basis to prevent the possibility of hitting our settlements. In this respect, there is no absolute guarantee for long, but it is definitely possible to provide adequate responses to the problem by consolidating local forces — naturally with IDF help. What has been our concern, and our duty — and will in the future be such as well — is to do our best to create conditions that will not require a massive Israeli presence, and certainly not amongst a population that is hotile and may remain so in the future.

[Schiffer] Why did Israel reject the Lebanese proposal to immediately begin talks on security arrangements in lieu of the accord that was abrogated?

[Levi] People here have been exaggerating the story, alleging that there were fully worked out, complementary, and harmonious plans based on the principles we tried to work out in the accord that was abrogated by the Lebanese Administration. This is not at all so. A meeting at which Israel would be officially notified of the abrogation of the accord....I would say that this does not merit the creation of or participation in a situation involving Israel's notification of this abrogation. The abrogation is self-evident.

[Schiffer] Can you promise, publicly, that Israel has indeed made every effort to open some kind of dialogue with Syria? After all, everyone realizes that without Syria's consent there will be no security arrangements or any other arrangements in Lebanon.

[Levi] The situation should not be viewed through rose-colored glasses. It is not as though Syria is offering Israel a dialogue or has responded to an appeal or an effort by us for talks and that we are refusing to comply or are presenting preconditions for that. This is certainly not so. Syria's intentions are well known and clearly spelled out. They are extremist and based on a combined military and political strategy, that is to say, the prevention of any kind of dialogue with Israel. This is an extremist line based on the intention to prevent any element from holding talks with Israel or reaching any kind of arrangement with it. This is compounded by a strategy based on Syria's desire to take over Lebanon.

Here Israel should take such steps to provide us with sufficient deterrent power to prevent any sort of flare-up and stop the Syrians from even entertaining the illusion that they could gain the upper hand. In other words, we should prevent a conflagration based on the cards we hold in our own hands, and I maintain that Israel can have the right cards — if we act in a way to guarantee our security; limit our presence in Lebanon; and restore the concept of sophistication, deterrence, and mobility to the IDF, to use whenever it wants, where it wants, as required. The problem then will rest with the Syrians; the ball will be in their court. The more they become entangled in Lebanon, the more the situation will resemble previous situations there, when Syria was deeply involved in Lebanese affairs — and paid the price for it.

[Schiffer] You have accused the U.S. Administration of having caused Israel to fail, over the past 12 months, in matters pertaining to Lebanon as well as in other areas. Do you agree with Former Defense Minister Sharon's accusations in this regard?

[Levi] Everyone has his own style and everyone has his own positions; you must not lump us all together. At the time, I claimed — and I still hold the same view — that anyone who wants to coordinate with Israel but complains that Israel is not coordinating with it, anyone who decides on a certain approach but fails to follow through, then first and foremost he himself is responsible for weakening his own position.

[Schiffer] But to this the U.S. secretary of state replied — albeit perhaps not directly — by saying that when Israel left the Ash-Shuf mountains, it in fact destroyed the chance of bringing about the Syrians' withdrawal and reaching a comprehensive settlement in Lebanon.

[Levi] This is very simple to say. And supposing we had remained in the Ash-Shuf, we would have remained in what for us is a critical situation — namely, we would have continued to pay the price. Do you think Syria would then have changed its policy? Absolutely not! So what is the importance and significance of the presence of the Marines and a large U.S. armada there? I said then: To go there and say that your sole job is to defend your soldiers cannot deter someone else. And second, to believe the Syrians when they say that if Israel would only sign that it is ready withdraw, they would do the same — even the Americans now understand that they were deceived. I expect that precisely this state of affairs will serve as a catalyst to bolster our ties with the United States.

[Schiffer] How can you see this as a chance for closer contacts, while the United States is encouraging Jordan to enter the peace process and also to talk to Yasir 'Arafat? How could the two countries coordinate matters over these issues?

[Levi] We have heard the official U.S. announcements, and are also in the process of receiving clarifications from them. The Americans are well aware of our position, which is very clear and unambiguous, regarding the PLO and the future of Judaea and Samaria. We should not cut ourselves short or give up, and arguing is one of the characteristics of friendship that strengthen the right of the parties to insist on things that are vital to each one of them.

[Schiffer] Mr Levi, why actually condemn mayors from the territories who talk to Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat in Amman? They want to talk to him and they regard him as their representative.

[Levi] By the same token, you could also argue that we should not take the measures required by the security situation. They, after all, want to return to this land which they claim is theirs, so naturally things should be allowed to develop in that direction. This is simple, perhaps.

[Schiffer] But is there not a difference between a dialogue and taking military measures?

[Levi] Meetings with 'Arafat, when we know what the purpose of the PLO is — and he heads it — and what its charter means for Israel, then such a dialogue is not for the purpose of what I would call the abolition of its charter or the PLO's existence in terms of its views on Israel. Rather, it is an attempt to persuade him to take new paths to achieve the same goal, since he has failed to do so through the military option. If the beginning of that goal is Judaea and Samaria, then from our point of view this is real danger, and it is inconceivable for us to support that.

Jerusalem Arabic on Redeployment in Lebanon

JN120923 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 11 Mar 84

[From the "With the Events" program]

[Text] The presence of the IDF in southern Lebanon remains a subject of concern for official circles in the country. The different possibilities resulting from this presence are being discussed in coordination with the security circles concerned. Here is a look at the latest developments in the Israeli position on the IDF presence in Lebanon in a report by our political correspondent Dov Rabinovich:

In its short session today, the Cabinet did not reach any decision on the future deployment of the IDF in Lebanon, but it is clear that the subject of Lebanon and its reverberations has been given much discussion today, as the session was also attendedby General Moshe Levi, IDF chief of staff; General 'Amos Lapidot, Air Force commander, and a number of high ranking army officers. In any case, the possibility of the redeployment of the IDF in southern Lebanon still concerns the official circles, and this includes all the possibilities and options for redeploying the IDF.

Even if Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor insisted today that talks in the session only dealt with the subject of border crossings at the Israeli-Lebanese border, what Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir recently said in a press interview regarding security circles preparing a new security program, and the government making a decision in light of the program at the right time, must be taken into consderation.

After the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, all the ministers agree that Israel's interests in Lebanon must be limited to the guarantee of peace and security in the Galilee, and that Israel could achieve this through unilateral action due to the absence of a central Lebanese authority with sovereignty and power to negotiate. All the ministers also agree that this Beirut authority will not exist in the foreseeable future. This position was expressed in a direct and indirect manner through statements made by a number of ministers, headed by Defense Minister Moshe Arens and David Levi, deputy prime minister and minister of construction and housing. Everybody sees that it will be necessary to work for the guarantee of security in the Galilee by keeping a defined area in Lebanon at the present status for a relatively long period of time. The differences at present are over the means that will lead to the deployment of the IDF in ways that guarantee at the same time the areas of northern Israel, and the security and safety of the soldiers in southern Lebanon. These differences are manifested by a call for deployment behind this or that line or by calls for keeping or not keeping the observation points on the Al-Baruk mountain and other areas in the eastern sector of Lebanon. Everyone is aware that a decision on the redeployment of the IDF may be taken within the next few weeks, and the current delay is only to complete a study in this respect by the security circles concerned.

BAMAHANE Editor Dismissed After Criticism of War

TA111208 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 11 Mar 84 p 8

[Text] The editor of *BAMAHANE NAHAL*, Me'ir Doron, was dismissed at the end of last week following the publication of an article which sharply criticized the Lebanese war. It was decided to shelve the article but thousands of copies had already reached subscribers before the instruction was issued. *BAMAHANE NAHAL* staffers claim that the editor's dismissal was effected by Defense Minister Moshe Arens, following pressure on him by the Herut Movement and BETAR [Yosef Trumpeldor Alliance; a Likud youth movement] circles. Earlier it had seemed that the affair would be concluded with a letter of reprimand. The editor, Me'ir Doron, was a civilian employee of the IDF hired on contract. His work contract will not be renewed.

Defense Ministry Clarification

TA121053 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 12 Mar 84 p 4

[Text] Following reports that the *BAMAHANE NAHAL* editor had been dismissed, the Defense Ministry spokesman wants to make clear the following: The editor was not dismissed; he was hired on contract for a trial period. The head of the Defense Ministry's Youth and NAHAL Department decided that when the contract expires, it will not be renewed. As for the editorial in *BAMAHANE NAHAL*, it was said that the defense minister took a very grave view of it, of the use made of an IDF organ for the expression of political positions that run counter to the government's policy.

Another Suspect Arrested in Ramallah Bus Attack

TA122008 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The police have arrested another suspect in the incident in which shots were fired at an Arab bus near Ramallah about 2 weeks ago. Our correspondent Rami Gubernik learned that the suspect is a 21-year old soldier, a member of the KAKH movement. He was detained this morning at the IDF base where he is currently serving. The suspect was a member of the Jewish Defense League in the United States, and immigrated to Israel 3 years ago. He was a member of the illegal settlement of El Naqam established by the KAKH movement in Judaea and Samaria. Before his mobilization into the army, he lived in an apartment of the KAKH movement in Qiryat Arba'. Our correspondent reports that KAKH leader Me'ir Kahana has requested a meeting with the U.S. ambassador in Israel, to ask him to intervene in the affair of the five suspected of the bus attack.

Rise Reported in Hostile Acts Among Galilee Arabs

TA131020 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 13 Mar 84 p 8

[Report by Yitzhaq Meridor]

[Excerpt] The Arab sector in the Galilee has become more extreme over the last year. This was expressed in many cases of waving the PLO flag, damaging the Galilee observation posts and water pipes, setting up roadblocks on public routes, and identifying with a hostile organization. In 1983 some 150 people were detained for committing these acts, and 80 of them have been brought to trial. This was reported yesterday by the commander of the police Galilee Subdistrict, Assistant Commander Me'ir Shade.

Two IDF Soldiers Wounded in South Lebanon

TA130711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Two IDF soldiers have been wounded in southern Lebanon. The IDF spokesman has announced that the two soldiers were wounded by light weapons fire directed at an IDF force that was patrolling the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp near Sidon. Fire was returned and the wounded were taken to the hospital. The IDF forces have begun searching the area.

Terrorist From Lebanon Planted Jerusalem Bomb

TA121632 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1455 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] [no date or place-name as received] The 35-year old terrorist who planted the bomb on Yafo street in Jerusalem 2 weeks ago arrived from Lebanon a few days before the incident, crossing through Rosh Haniqra. ITIM has learned that upon entering Israel, the terrorist underwent a body check and was not found in possession of any explosives, so he was allowed to proceed, after passing through the regular procedures involving Lebanese inhabitants who want to visit Israel. Only when he reached Jerusalem did he receive the hand grenades from local terrorists who asked him to activate them.

As will be recalled, he was among those wounded in the explosion and was transferred to the "Biqur Holim" hospital in Jerusalem, from where he tried to escape despite the serious back and abdominal injuries he suffered. This resulted in rigorous questioning of him, and the discovery that he had arrived from Lebanon. The security forces are currently trying to discover the source of the Russian-made grenades he had, which he obtained from local elements who asked him to detonate them.

ECA Official Says African Monetary Fund Set for 1986

AB072150 Lagos NAN in English 1700 GMT 7 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, March 7 (NAN) — An African monetary fund (AMF) to cater for the economic problems of African nations is to be established by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the director of the International Trade and Finance Division of the ECA, Dr Bingu wa Mutharika, said in Lagos. He told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) yesterday that feasibility studies on the fund had been completed and that the results were encouraging.

Dr Bingu said that the AMF would be supplementary to the African Development Bank (ADB) and would play an advisory role in addition to giving financial aid to African countries in need. He said that contrary to the IMF's practice of prescribing solutions to the problems of borrower countries without diagnosing such problems, the AMF would identify each country's difficulties and take into account its fundamental regional constraints.

The ECA director said that the conditions for giving out the AMF loans would not be as stringent as those of the IMF. He said that the AMF would serve as a payment and clearinghouse for African countries, thereby encouraging greater inflow of resources.

Dr Bingu said that special drawing rights would be proposed to operate side by side with the national currencies of member countries when the fund became operational in 1986. The idea of establishing the AMF was mooted and supported by African leaders during the first economic summit of the OAU in Lagos in 1980.

International Labor Meeting Condemns World Recession

AB101421 Paris AFP in English 1419 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Dakar, Mar 10 (AFP) — The international recession has brought most African countries to the brink of bankruptcy, with poverty and unemployment likely to rise unless the deflationary policies of the world's economic powers are reversed, an international labor conference said in a final document issued here.

The just-concluded conference was called by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and a Senegalese union, the Confederation Nationale des Travailleurs Senegalais, to analyze the effects of the world economic recession on the African worker. Union leaders from 25 African countries and the developed world attended the conference.

More than half of Africa's population is unemployed or underemployed, agricultural production is declining, export prices for raw materials are falling, development aid is diminishing and drought threatens the lives of millions of people, the document said.

The labor delegates accused the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of contributing to Africa's bleak economic outlook by imposing "draconian" readjustment measures which have resulted in lower living standards, price increases and worker layoffs.

The union representatives asked the World Bank and the IMF to reform the international financial system to reduce interest rates and relieve the debt burden on African countries.

The labor representatives also called for stable export prices for raw materials, increased intra-African trade, and a revision of African development strategies with greater emphasis on the rural sector and increased food production.

The delegates also called for greater solidarity between unions from northern and southern countries to oppose apartheid, protect the interests of immigrant workers and pressure their governments to support the conference recommendations.

ALGERIA

Iran's Velayati Continues Algiers Visit

Arrival Statement Reported

LD121238 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Algiers, March 12, IRNA — Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said here Sunday that the Iraqi regime imposed an aggression against the Islamic Republic, adding that the latter would continue its defence vis-a-vis such a violation.

Velayati, who arrived here at the head of a political delegation Sunday night, told reporters at the airport that his visit to Algeria was made with the objective to further strengthen bilateral relations and discuss matters of mutual interest. Velayati and his entourage were welcomed by his Algerian counterpart Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, as well as a number of officials and the Iranian ambassador here. Velayati is due to leave for Romania at the conclusion of his 4-day visit here.

Velayati Visit Praised

LD121126 Algiers APS in English 1035 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Algiers, 12/03/84 (APS) — The official visit of the Iranian foreign minister to Algeria comes in line with the friendly relations between the two countries since the triumph of the Islamic revolution. It is in response to the visit paid last year by Algerian officials to Tehran. The excellent relations between the two countries were proven during the affair of American diplomats held in Tehran. Algeria had made all possible efforts to preserve Iranian interests and to settle this humanitarian case. Algeria's mediation was highly appreciated by Iran, and contributed to consolidate mutual consideration and confidence.

The two foreign ministers will have to deal with international matters, focusing mainly on those endangering the Arabian-Islamic peoples. The aggravation of the Iraq-Iran conflict these past days [word indistinct] compromises the combat that unified the Islamic world in a relation of interests, solidarity and aspirations. It is because of its conviction on this relationship that Algeria reiterates clearly its position vis-a-vis this fratricidal war by calling for negotiations as the only means towards the settlement of the conflict.

LIBYA

'Strong Protest' Note Given to UK Over Arrests

LD130927 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0845 GMT 13 Mar 84

["The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison Delivers a Strong Protest to the British Government, corrected as follows: — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Mar (JANA) — The People's Committee of the People's Bureau of Foreign Liaison has delivered a strongly worded protest to the British Government over the arrest by the British authorities yesterday of 23 Libyan citizens who are in Britain as tourists, students or patients seeking medical treatment. The committee considers this action as conducive to the destruction of relations between the two countries.

The Libyan Arab protest was handed to the British charge to the Jamahiriyah, when he was summoned to the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison yesterday for the purpose.

In its protest note, the committee demands the immediate release of all the Libyans arrested by the British authorities. It also demands an official apology over the arrest of a member of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, who was on a mission at the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in London, and his detention at London airport. It also demands an official apology for the British authorities' storming and searching the office of one of the staff of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in London.

The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison angrily denounces the involvement of the name of the Jamahiriyah with such acts, and categorically rejects all the so-called British warnings as being totally unacceptable. The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison pointed out to the British charge d'affaire that these serious acts of provocation against the citizens of the Jamahiriyah constitute an alignment by Britain on the side of the enemies of the Libyan Arab people, and as such will be met with the necessary measures.

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah considers the charges leveled against it a pretext to cover the British attitude of encouraging the stray dogs that committed a crime against the rights of the Libyan Arab people.

JANA Reports Sudanese Liberation Front Statement

LD111107 Tripoli JANA in English 0828 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] London, Jumada Thani 6, March 11, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Sudanese Popular Liberation Movement issued a statement in London affirming its determination to continue the armed struggle to rid the Sudanese people from the hegemony of hireling Numayri and his clique, and to establish socialist-democratic-popular rule.

In its statement, the front affirmed that the Sudanese masses in the south had joined its ranks to carry arms against the Numayri regime and its mercenaries. It said that the revolutionaries now control vast regions in the south, including the towns of Akobo, Wat, Nashir and [words indistinct].

The front accused hireling Numayri and his clique of robbing, in association with foreign companies, the Sudanese people of their resources and transforming Sudanese territory into training ranges and staging posts for the intervention of Western colonialist forces in the African region.

Malagasy Foreign Minister Holds Tripoli Talks

LD101915 Tripoli JANA in English 1821 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 5, March 10, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A meeting was held at noon today between the People's Committee at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the foreign minister of Democratic Madagascar, Mr Jean Bemananjara.

Discussions during the meeting centered on methods of enhancing cooperation and developing bilateral relations between the Jamahiriyah and the Democratic Malagasy republic. The meeting also discussed the situation in Africa in light of the American imperialist threats which are undermining security and stability in the continent, together with the threats posed by the racist South African regime to the frontline states.

MOROCCO

Hassan Message to OAU Chairman Reported

LD101402 Rabat MAP in English 1203 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat, Mar 10 (MAP) — The semi-official daily *LE MATIN DU SAHARA* published on Friday the text of the message addressed by King Hassan II of Morocco to the President of Ethiopia, the acting chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), in reply to the letter the monarch received on 23 January 1984. Following is the non-official translation of the message:

Mr Chairman and dear brother,

Thank you very much for your letter of January 23, 1984, which I recently received. After recalling the efforts of the implementation committee, and your own, in seeking to ensure a successful implementation of the resolutions relevant to the Western Sahara, you have asked all our brothers, heads of state and governments, and the members of the Organization of African Unity to provide you with their wise counsel, so as to help the organization in carrying out the resolutions, and more specifically Resolution AHG/104 (XIX).

First of all, allow me to pay tribute to you for what you have done with respect to the Western Sahara case. On this occasion, I must say how worthy of praise the wisdom and competence you have shown really are.

Yet, a misunderstanding still seems to exist, continuing to cause a hindrance to the fulfilment of the mission of the implementation committee of the OAU. This misunderstanding must absolutely be dispelled in order for things to go back to normal and for the implementation committee to be able to tackle the mission it has been entrusted with. There is an urgent need to solve a prejudicial question, for the sake of the debates and wise counsel you have elicited from our brothers, heads of state and governments, in your above-mentioned message.

You seem to assume that "the temporary and voluntary withdrawal of the Polisario Front" has alone made it possible for the Addis Ababa summit to take place, and that, because of this comprehensive act, the OAU, thus avoiding an explosion, worked out a compromise to be included in resolution AHG/104 (XIX); that is "urging the parties to the conflict to undertake direct negotiations."

In this respect, an essential point needs to be recalled, and that is that the Polisario Front has never been recognized as an independent and sovereign state — a member of the Organization of African Unity. The decision to admit it was taken only by a ministerial conference convened at Addis Ababa in February 1982. The legality and legitimacy of this decision has been contested by the majority of African states; rather, it was the opposition of these states to having the Polisario admitted which caused the failure of both the first and second Tripoli summits. Had it not been for your wise management, the Addis Ababa XIXTH [as received] summit would have had a similar fate. It should therefore not be concluded that the absence of the Polisario from the XIXTH summit results from the fact that it decided to withdraw "voluntarily and temporarily" from it. The fate of the Polisario Front within the Organization of African Unity thus remains to be determined by the summit of our organization, as it is alone empowered to do so.

There is no doubt that, thanks to your great wisdom, you would definitely sense the significance of this aspect of the problem which, if not properly perceived, would expose our organization to serious danger by putting it, once more, in the same deadlock as that of the eve of the aborted two Tripoli summits.

You seem to hold Morocco wholly responsible for the postponement of the third session of the implementation committee, which you had yourself decided. Recalling some facts would suffice, it seems, to support this argument. When you invited me to take part in the meetings of the implementation committee which was to convene, under your chairmanship, on September 21, 1983 in Addis Ababa, I first despatched to you my personal advisor, Mr Guedira, as a special envoy, to deliver my message to you. Then, led by our crown prince, a delegation was appointed to represent Morocco at those meetings.

The implementation committee convened in concordance with Resolution AHG/104 (XIX) which "invited it to meet in order to define, in cooperation with the parties to the conflict, the ways and means and other details relevant to the reinforcement of a cease-fire and the organization of a referendum before December 1983." The reinforcement of a cease-fire and the organization of the referendum in December 1983 were most obviously the only points which the implementation committee was to examine at the Addis Ababa meetings.

It so happens that you yourself held a different opinion, which you conveyed to the Moroccan delegation during an audience in your office, in the presence of your foreign affairs minister and in the absence of the other members of the committee. In fact, it was your belief then that the mandate you had from the OAU was one and indivisible, consisting of "urging the parties to the conflict to undertake direct negotiations with a view to reaching a cease-fire" and ensuring "a meeting of the implementation committee so as to define cooperation with the parties to the conflict, the terms of a cease-fire and the organization of a referendum."

However, a careful reading of Resolution AHG/104 (XIX) obviously suggests another view. The mandate specified by the resolution and given to the implementation committee and its chairman consists of two parts, namely:

1. The fact that it "urges the parties to the conflict to undertake direct negotiations,"
2. The fact that it entrusts the implementation committee with the mission of "convening so as to define, in cooperation with the parties to the conflict, the ways and means and other details relevant to the reinforcement of a cease-fire and the organization of a referendum in December 1983."

Thus, the second side of the mandate is different and independent from the first. By inviting the committee to convene for a clearly defined purpose, it implies obligation for all — whether the parties to the conflict or the implementation committee. It was with the clear intention of taking part in the implementation committee meetings and loyally cooperating with it towards the fulfilment of its mission that our delegation went to Addis Ababa in September 1983.

As for the first side of the mandate, it implies something completely optional and its implementation depends on the sovereign will of the parties it is addressed to. It is on the basis of such an optional nature that Morocco rightly declared that she was by no means tied by an "urge" which, according to the definition of the term itself, can in no way become an imposition. For things to be better understood and for a more wholesome appreciation of the situation, this flashback seemed rather necessary.

Furthermore, it is exactly the essence of the thing and the basic aspect of the problem that we should be concerned with. In our view, the problem of the cease-fire and the organization of the referendum remains the essential thing, and all those who claim otherwise are only putting Africa on a perilous track that may expose the continent to the most serious consequences.

So far as we are concerned, we have definitely accepted to comply with the terms of a cease-fire, as well as the ways, means and conditions defined by the Organization of African Unity. We have agreed to resort to the referendum and, at the last United Nations General Assembly, officially announced that Morocco considered herself committed in advance by the popular response of such a referendum.

The question of representation of some Polisario leaders raised with your foreign affairs minister and Mr Peter Onu was deliberately skipped over in this message to you. Nevertheless, we might bring it up when time allows. At this stage, we prefer to limit ourselves to the very essential part of the matter.

Thus, Morocco has done all that is possible to respond to the point of view and wishes of the countries within the African community and whose opinions differ from hers. It is on these points, which alone constitute the essence of the problem, that Morocco felt bound towards the African community, by acts of free sovereignty inspired by the peaceful will and the need to save the African unity from danger.

We have gone even further in our will to facilitate your task. As we have explained to your minister of foreign affairs, none of the above-mentioned considerations can prevent the implementation committee from approaching the parties concerned in order to inquire about the conditions likely to ensure a cease-fire or, consequently, for assuming the responsibility of the necessary communication. Any other controversies, fundamentally futile, can only slow down the move towards peace and cause division among the African states whose unity guarantees the future.

Please accept, Mr Chairman and dear brother, the expression of my highest esteem and consideration.

SUDAN

Italy's Andreotti Concludes Official Visit

Bilateral Talks Held

JN091756 Khartoum SUNA in English 1715 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Mar, (SUNA) — The first round of talks between the Italian side and the Sudanese side began here today.

During the session, which was chaired by visiting Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti and his Sudanese counterpart Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, African-Arab and international issues were discussed.

Before the session, the two ministers met and discussed the diplomatic relations between the two countries and the possibility of Italian contributions to the integration projects between Sudan and Egypt. During the session, Andreotti praised Sudan's foreign policy which is based on non-intervention in other countries affairs.

Mubarak explained that talks between the two sides were characterized by clarity and affirmed that viewpoints were identical. He added that the meeting also discussed Arab issues, including the Palestinian cause, the Gulf war and the Lebanese problem.

Andreotti Meets With Numayri

AU102012 Rome ANSA in English 1925 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] (ANSA) Khartoum, March 10 — Italy stands ready to back every effort on the part of the Khartoum regime to improve the standard of living of the pagan and Christian populations in the south of the Sudan, Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti reiterated here today.

Meeting with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri for more than one hour this morning, the day before he is due to return home, Andreotti noted that discontent in the south of the Sudan was being manipulated by anti-Numayri forces abroad. The resulting explosive mixture, according to the visiting Italian Government official, is feared by the entire West.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan's roving ambassador, Vernon Walters, was in the country just a few days ago to check the situation and the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum, Horan Hume, met with Andreotti today to brief him on the outcome of Walter's visit.

Although decked out in military attire and adorned by 26 medals on his jacket, the Sudanese president appeared to Andreotti today to be more of a "lamb" than a "warrior" as he insisted on his desire to live peacefully with such "threatening" neighbors as Ethiopia and Libya, and reiterated his intention to fight social unrest in the south with economic progress and not with rifles and jails.

Sudan, aware of its vulnerability with eight virtually indefensible borders, has turned to the United States and Egypt for protection. Just two years ago, the United States and Egypt held joint military maneuvers, dubbed "Bright Star," in Sudanese territory. Washington has already come to the aid of Numayri several times, particularly in March 1983, when the *Nimitz* aircraft carrier was sent to the Sidra Gulf to ward off an armed forces plot allegedly fomented by Libya.

But Numayri denied, in his talks here today with Andreotti, reports that the United States was getting an airlift ready to carry arms to the regime to fight off anti-government guerrillas in the south. "It is a rumor started by my enemies," Numayri charged, while telling Andreotti that the situation in the south of the Sudan is, at present, "under control". Numayri also confirmed plans today to send his foreign minister Sunday to Nairobi for a meeting with the Libyan foreign minister for a "clarification" with the Tripoli regime.

According to most observers, Numayri will probably take advantage of the slowdown in pressures from its eastern flank to step up efforts against rebels in the south. A mediation effort between the Khartoum government and the rebels, conducted by Clement Mboro, an expert in southern Sudanese affairs who was called back from exile for the mediation, has run into a deadlock after the government refused a series of opposition demands.

Andreotti Issues Statement, Departs

JN111930 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum 11 Mar (SUNA) — Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti stressed his country's readiness to contribute to the implementation of development projects in Sudan and the efforts on the question of scheduling Sudan's foreign commitments.

In a statement he delivered today prior to his departure, Andreotti praised Sudan's foreign policy, which is based on mutual respect of neighbouring relations and peaceful settlement for the world's conflicts. Andreotti expressed hope that this policy would be developed to serve as an example in handling African and international disputes. He expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of his talks in Sudan, and said these talks had dealt with boosting bilateral relations and increasing Italy's contribution to the development program, notably in the southern regions.

On the current peace efforts in Lebanon, Andreotti said the achievement of peace there is associated with reaching an agreement among the Lebanese various factions. He expressed hope that the meeting of the second round of national dialogue would be a "forward step" towards putting an end to the war there.

In reply to a question about the problems facing the European Economic Community (EC), the Italian official said they consist of several problems dealing with the financial contribution of member-states to the EC budget and problems of agricultural production. He expressed hope that the EEC would benefit from the failure of the Athens summit experiment to the success of Brussels' next summit, which is expected to discuss some political issues such as north-south dialogue and the problems of the Middle East. [sentence as received]

Andreotti left here this morning at 0900 after a four-day visit, during which he had talks with President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and the ministers of finance and economic planning, energy and mining, and other technical bodies. The talks had touched on bilateral relations and other issues of common concern.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, Finance and Economic Planning Minister Ibrahim Mun'im Mansur, Foreign Secretary Hashim 'Uthman and the Italian ambassador to Khartoum saw Andreotti off this morning.

President Numayri Returns From Egypt Visit

JN111803 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Mar (SUNA) — At 1700 today, President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri returned to the homeland following a short visit to fraternal Egypt, during which he met with his brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in the city of Aswan. They held a 2-hour closed meeting, after which the Sudanese and Egyptian sides held a round of talks within the framework of the continued consultations between the fraternal countries.

Numayri was seen off at Aswan airport by his brother President Mubarak; Abu Bakr; 'Uthman Muhammad Salih, the secretary general of the Higher Integration Council; Major General 'Abd as-Sattar Amin, the assistant secretary general of the Higher Integration Council; the governor of Aswan; and the political and executive leaderships in the governorate.

TUNISIA

Former Interior Minister Charged With Treason

LD131406 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba has received Justice Minister Mohamed Chaker in the presence of [Prime Minister] Mohamed Mzali and Beji Caid Essebsi [foreign affairs minister]. Following the meeting, Mohamed Caker made the following statement:

[Read by announcer] The president, after reviewing the report of the investigating committee charged with fixing responsibility for the past December and January incidents, decided to refer Driss Guiga, former minister of the interior, to the Supreme Court on charges of committing high treason, in according with Chapter 68 of the Constitution.

His excellency also gave permission for the necessary measures to be taken to compose the Supreme Court as stipulated by the Constitution [words indistinct] of 1970, approved 1 April 1970.

President Bourguiba Receives Finland's Sorsa

LD091330 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] This morning, President Habib Bourguiba and his wife received the prime minister of Finland, Kalevi Sorsa, his wife, and the Finnish secretary of state for foreign affairs, who is accompanying Prime Minister Sorsa on his official visit to Tunisia.

The meeting was attended by Mohammad Mzali, Caid Essebsi, Rashid Sfar, Su'ad Al-Yaqubi and the ambassadors of the two countries. Prime Minister Sorsa extended to the great struggler greetings from the Finnish president. His excellency the president and his wife invited their guests to their dining table.

After meeting with President Bourguiba, Sorsa said that he recalled with the president memories of the president's visit to Finland in 1963, and the means of cooperation between the two countries. He extended an invitation from the Finnish president to President Bourguiba to pay an official visit to Finland.

Publication of Opposition Weekly Suspended

LD082331 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1523 GMT 8 Mar 83

[Text] Tunis, 8 Mar (KUNA) — Tunisian authorities today suspended the weekly *AL-MUSTAQBAL*, organ of the opposition party of the Socialists Democratic Movement, for 3 months.

A responsible Tunisian source said that suspension of the paper was for publishing false reports, harming public order in the country.

WESTERN SAHARA

Communique Criticizes Morocco's Refusal of Talks

LD111213 Algiers APS in English 1115 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] Hawza, Liberated zones, 11/3 (APS) — A statement of the Saharan Information Ministry characterized the message of King Hassan II to OAU secretary general as a "dilatory maneuver," aimed at hindering a political solution to the conflict separating Morocco and the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR).

Referring to King Hassan's statement that he negotiates only with states, the communique noted it is important to recall that the SDARis a full state member with the same title as Morocco. The communique noted, in conclusion, that colonialism also had resorted to the same subterfuge before accepting the reality of negotiating independence with representatives of colonized peoples.

DJIBOUTI

Kenyan Foreign Minister Brings Moi Note to Hassan

EA112109 Nairobi KNA in English 1527 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Djibouti March 11 — The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, today handed over a personal message from President Daniel arap Moi to the president of the Republic of Djibouti, His Excellency Mr Hassan Gouled Aptidon. The message was in connection with bilateral matters.

Receiving the message the Djibouti president warmly welcomed the Kenya delegation to his country and wished it a happy stay. Mr Aptidon expressed the hope that the visit of the Kenya delegation to Djibouti will be successful as the two countries start to make a concrete working programme of cooperation between them in all areas as agreed by the two heads of state in October 1980.

The Kenya delegation arrived in Djibouti today from Addis Ababa for a three day visit to Djibouti to discuss cooperation in all areas, including tourism, trade, transport, immigration, civil aviation and political matters.

Talks between the two sides will commence tomorrow morning followed by serious discussions between various sub-committees dealing with the subject matters to be covered. While the officials are discussing these issues, Mr Mwangale will be taken to a refugee camp in Dikhil, a distance of 100 kms south of Djibouti.

Before departure in Addis Ababa, Mr Mwangale held discussions with the Ethiopian minister for foreign affairs, Mr Goshu Wolde, at Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa. Mr Wolde, accompanied by his officials and his ambassador to Djibouti, Mr Dinka, gave Mr Mwangale and his delegation a warm send-off.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Holds Talks With Soviet Planning Official

EA122227 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, Provisional Military Administrative Council and COPWE chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, today held talks with Comrade Lakhtin, deputy chairman of the Soviet Planning Committee.

At a ceremony held at the COPWE Central Committee office this afternoon, Comrade Lakhtin hailed the rapid transformation of Ethiopia's economic development, making particular reference to the efforts made to transform the life of the rural people through agriculture, which is the economic base. In this respect, Comrade Lakhtin said that what he had seen and the exchanges of views he had held with comrades in Socialist Ethiopia during his visit indicated that the country's 10-year development plan would succeed. He affirmed in this respect that the USSR would provide the necessary support.

During the occasion, Comrade Chairman Mengistu held discussions with Comrade Lakhtin on Soviet-Ethiopian cooperation in the field of development.

Somali Refugees Tell of Siad Barre's Oppression

EA081918 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Somali citizens who recently fled to Ogaden told a team of journalists touring the Ogaden region that the reactionary Somali regime's dictatorial administration has increased its oppression daily. Among those who fled to Ethiopia in the last 8 months because of the reactionary Siad Barre regime's unbearable oppression are leaders, civil servants and farmers. The refugees are being housed in various parts of the Ogaden, where the journalists spoke with them.

The refugees told the journalists that because of political instability in the country the reactionary Siad Barre regime is arresting people under minor pretexts. Because of their untold suffering the people are forced to flee in thousands to neighboring countries, and the remainder are engaged in armed struggle to topple the Barre regime. The Somali Government, based on clans, religious and tribal administration, is sowing enmity among citizens, and because the minority Siad Barre clans hold the key positions they have expanded their oppression, forcing many of the population into exile. The refugees added that about 280 people from (Kalensor Besemerieb and Adada) villages, who were opposed to the acts perpetrated against a tribe known as Hawiya (Sulayman), were shot dead and many others were sent to prison. The refugees told the journalists that the Siad Barre regime poisoned a well at (Erbahdo) and killed 70 people, 3,600 (?goats and sheep), and 900 camels in one day. They added that about 40,000 of the Hawiya (Sulayman) fled to Ethiopia over a period of 3 months. The leader of this tribe, (Muhammad Worsem), who fled with his 30 children and 20 grandchildren and other citizens, noted that no less than 40,000 Hawiya tribesmen are engaged in armed struggle in Somalia.

Sudanese Rebels Release Kidnapped FRG Woman

NC120725 Paris AFP in English 0706 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Mar 12 (AFP) — Kidnapped West German mother Ursula (?Orson) and her 18-month son arrived safely in the Ethiopian capital here late Sunday, after they were handed over to authorities at the Ethiopian-Sudan border by the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), reliable sources here said today.

SOMALIA

Defense Ministry Reports Ethiopian Attacks 12 Mar

EA131447 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] A Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Defense Ministry statement issued today reports that Abyssinian enemy forces which have been engaged in offensives during the past few days against Cabuud Waaq district in Ghel Gudut region, yesterday attacked Cabuud Waaq at 1000, followed at 1400 yesterday by an armored attack.

A Defense Ministry spokesman stated that the Abyssinian enemy force was defeated in both the provocative attacks and suffered extensive damage in men and technical equipment.

Delegation Leaves for Tunis, Algiers Talks

EA091922 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali
1700 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Deputy Chairman of the People's National Assembly of the Somali Democratic Republic, SDR, Challe Mohamed Burale Ismail, and the delegation he leads, left this morning for Tunisia to attend the (?Inter-Arab) and African Parliamentary Unions' meeting opening in Tunisia on Monday, 12 March. The SDR parliamentary delegation will also attend the seventh meeting of the African Parliamentary Union to be held in Algiers at the end of this month.

DFSS Delegation Returns From Middle East Tour

EA122219 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali
to Somali 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] A delegation led by the deputy chairman of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS], fighter Umar Hasan Mahmud, nicknamed Umar, returned to the DFSS Central Command on 11 March. The delegation included DFSS Foreign Secretary Dr Hasan Ali Mireh and other members from various departments of the front.

The delegation, whose foreign tour began on 29 February this year, visited various friendly countries in the Middle East. The visits were at the invitation of leaders of countries who wanted to be briefed on the true situation in Somalia and on the struggle being waged by the Somali opposition forces, with particular reference to the level and extent of the DFSS fighting.

In an interview at the DFSS Central Command, he stated that his visit was successful. He was also pleased about the reception the DFSS had been accorded. They had also held constructive talks with the leaders of the countries they visited and had reached a mutual understanding on the issues raised. The DFSS also met leaders of [words indistinct] liberation fronts and journalists while abroad.

Asked on how those countries viewed the Somali people's struggle against the dictatorial regime of the unpopular Siad Barre, he stated that those countries regarded Siad Barre's regime as illegal, unpopular and a violation of Somalia's sense of nationhood. For this reason they pledged to contribute moral and material support to topple the dictatorial regime of Siad Barre.

DFSS Military Operation Depicted

EA122257 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali
to Somalia 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] In an operation against Siad Barre loyalist forces, units of the Ninth General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia wing of the Somali opposition forces have inflicted losses in men and material. The attack, which was directed against the bases of these forces in Central Mudugh in the village of (Shangale) between (Balisintir) and [name indistinct], took place on 9 March. The fighters killed five soldiers and also set fire to a Fiat personnel carrier. In the same operation the Ninth General Aynanshe Division fighters blew up [words indistinct] two heavy vehicles loaded with soldiers, ammunition, and rations. All those on board were wiped out. The fighters of the Ninth General Aynanshe Division returned to base with no casualties whatsoever.

TANZANIA

President Nyerere Flies to Maputo for Official Visit

EA131143 Dar es Salaam External Service in English
1000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam — President Nyerere flew to Maputo today for a one-day official visit to Mozambique. While in Maputo, mwalimu [Nyerere] is expected to hold talks with his host, President Samora Machel. His visit follows a weekend visit by President Samora and talks they held with mwalimu at Chamwino State Lodge in Dodoma. Mwalimu, who made a brief stopover at the Dar es Salaam International Airport en route to Maputo from Chamwino, Dodoma, is accompanied by three members of the National Executive Committee. They are Ndugu Kingunge Ngombale-Mwiru, [head of the party Ideology and Political Training Department], Ndugu Ali Mzee Ali, and Ndugu Salim Ahmad Salim, who is also the minister for foreign affairs.

Nyerere Receives Message From Lesotho's Jonathan

EA082026 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili
1300 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] Chamwino: President Nyerere today received a special message from Prime Minister of Lesotho Mr Leabua Jonathan. The message was presented to Mwalimu Nyerere by Mr Vincent Makhele, minister of state in the office of the Lesotho prime minister and minister for rural development and cooperatives. Mr Makhele, who arrived at Chamwino in Dodoma last night to present the message to Mwalimu Nyerere, is also the the secretary general of the ruling Basotho National Party. President Nyerere, who is also the chairman of Chama Cha Mapinduzi, is in Chamwino to attend a meeting of the National Executive Committee in Dodoma on 10 March. During their talks, Mwalimu Nyerere and the Lesotho minister discussed the current situation in southern Africa, the liberation of Namibia, issues related to the Southern African Development Cooperation Conference, and bilateral relations.

CAMEROON

Presidential Communique on 'Just Verdict' of Trial

AB121615 Dakar PANA in French 1045 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Yaounde, 10 Mar (CAMNEWS/PANA) — The trial of the persons involved in the plot against state security, which has no undertone of a quarrel between persons or between provinces, is a legal action of the Cameroonian people against individuals convicted of crimes against the nation, irrespective of their ethnic origin or their religious affiliation. This was contained in a communique from the Presidency of the Republic following a session of the Council of Ministers held at the Unity Palace and presided over by head of state Paul Biya.

National and international opinion has been able to understand the true facts and their seriousness, said the head of state, who pointed out that these facts, which have been freely confessed by their authors who have pleaded guilty and appealed for clemency, will irrefutably remove the scepticism, insinuations, and denials made by certain confused minds who have run out of arguments or by certain ill-informed media organizations.

The communique continued: The president of the Republic made it a point to observe that in view of the dangers to which the accused exposed the institutions through their maneuvers and in view of the threats which their subversive maneuvers posed to public order and national unity, the military tribunal has freely assessed the gravity of the facts, determined the level of responsibility of the accused, and passed against them exemplary sentences in accordance with Cameroon's laws and corresponding to the level of responsibility of the accused and to the gravity of the facts.

The communique also recalls that in the past, similar trials implicated many political personalities or religious dignitaries of different regions of the Republic, but it never occurred to anyone to associate these trials with the ethnic considerations or religious affiliation of the accused persons.

Mr Biya, the communique states, expressed satisfaction with the attitude of Cameroonians, intelligent and vigilant patriots who understood this and who consider the verdict as just and appropriate.

Referring to the case of those whose indictment has been requested, President Biya asked for everything to be done to ensure a rapid hearing of their case, the communique states. These are Bello Bouba Maigari, former prime minister; Maikano Abdoulaye, former minister of the Armed Forces; and Ibrahima Madjiri, former delegate to the Gendarmerie.

Finally, the head of state invited the government and people of Cameroon, following the aftermath and repercussions of this trial, to remain vigilant and at the same time to seek to further strengthen national cohesion which has not at all been affected and to pursue the active promotion of the economic, social, and cultural activities of the country.

GABON

Bongo, Sekou Toure Attend PDG Anniversary Fete

AB121046 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 0630 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Gabon is today celebrating the 16th anniversary of the founding of the Gabonese Democratic Party [PDG], the ruling and only party. As usual, an important military and civilian parade will take place this morning and in the presence of Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure and, obviously, Gabonese head of state Omar Bongo. Also present in the country for the parade are delegations from France, Morocco, and Canada.

On the occasion of this anniversay of the PDG, President Omar Bongo, as tradition demands, yesterday gave an important speech in which he once again justified the adoption of the one-party system. The first reason, according to Omar Bongo, was the unfortunate experience with the multiparty system in Gabon from 1960 to 1967. To the Gabonese head of state, the multiparty system accentuated tribalism, regionalism, and clan divisions. In short, according to Omar Bongo, it was a contributory factor to the divisions and ravages. Consequently, there would be no question of adopting the multiparty system once again.

The second reason given by President Bongo was that the multiparty system is foreign. It belongs to the whites; therefore, it is not adapted to, or better still, it is in opposition to the realities of African politics. To Omar Bongo, it is surprising and inadmissible that Gabon, or black Africa, should adopt the multiparty system as if our continent did not have any political experience. According to the Gabonese head of state, the one-party system can be identified with the Gabonese spirit and culture and therefore that of Africa.

The third and last explanation given by President Bongo was the size of his country. The Gabonese head of state asked the question: Why should Gabon, which is such a small country, small in size and with a population of less than 1 million inhabitants, have many political parties, when big nations such as China and the Soviet Union have only single parties? President Bongo reasserted his firmness on this issue: While I am president of this country, there will be no multiparty system.

The PDG is the melting pot, the cement of national unity. The PDG is well established in the country and is the handiwork of Omar Bongo. It succeeded the Gabonese Democratic Bloc of former President Leon Mba and other political groups.

BENIN

President Kerekou Supports DPRK Tripartite Proposal

AB100823 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] For several years now — several decades now — imperialism has been working hard to divide the people of Korea. In fact, this maneuver is multiplied in order to delay the peaceful reunification of the Korean fatherland. The DPRK continues to work relentlessly toward this reunification. It has just made new contributions toward the achievement of this goal and it is this new demonstration of willingness of the DPRK president that President Kerekou salutes him in the following message which he sent to Pyongyang today:

Comrade president and my dear friend,

The numberous laudable and well-intentioned efforts which you have constantly made toward the independent and peaceful reunification of the great Korean fatherland and your legitimate desire to work toward the establishment of a peaceful atmosphere on the Korean Peninsula and thus making it a nuclear-free zone constitutes for all peace- and justice-loving countries a real source of encouragement. That is why, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party, of the National Executive Council, and on my own behalf, we strongly wish to express to you our total and unflinching militant solidarity with you and our support for the suggestions for the holding of a tripartite discussion put forward recently by the DPRK. This realistic suggestion is aimed at easing the tense situation currently prevailing on the Korean Peninsula and at favoring the conditions for the independent and peaceful reunification of the Korean fatherland.

As far as we are concerned, we will continue to increase our daily efforts toward the effective realization of this independent and peaceful reunification of the Korean nation. While we reiterate our total support for you, we pray you accept our best wishes for your personal prosperity and for the security, peace, and the success of the militant and friendly people of Korea.

Highest and militant considerations,

[Signed] Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the Beninese People's Revolutionary Party; president of the republic; head of state; and chairman of the National Executive Council

Kerekou Receives Kampuchean Minister Ieng Sary

AB101030 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] President Kerekou held talks this afternoon with his Excellency Ieng Sary, the Kampuchean minister of foreign affairs. The Kampuchean foreign minister was led into the president's office by Comrade Alidou Ba Boukary, minister of state farms, livestock, and fishing, who was acting for the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

GHANA

Two Frolinat Delegations Meet With Asamoah

AB120612 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] A delegation of two Chadian militant groups currently on a West and Central African tour has had talks with the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah. The groups are the Occidental Armed Forces and the National Liberation Front, Frolinat. Speaking to newsmen in Accra at the end of the 4-day visit to the country, the leader of the delegation, Mr Abdelkader (Yassim), stated that the Chadian issue should be treated as an African affair. He therefore appealed to African countries to help solve the problem. He said Ghana can play an important role in bringing about a lasting peace to the area. Mr (Yassim) described the French presence in Chad as another form of their colonization policy. He accused France of violating the Lagos agreement, which calls for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad. The delegation has since left for Cotonou on a similar visit.

Government Launches 1984 Population Census

AB120645 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The 1984 population census has been launched. In a broadcast last night, the government's statistician, Dr Oti Boateng, explained that the primary aim of the exercise is to assess the size, composition, and geographical distribution of Ghana's population.

GUINEA

$10 Million Loan Agreement Signed With Saudi Arabia

AB130925 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Saudi-Guinean friendship and cooperation, which have arisen from identical objectives aimed at achieving progress and peace in the world, are being steadily strengthened and developed. Evidence of this is the visit of a Saudi delegation to Guinea from 10 to 11 March 1984.

The four-man delegation was led by Muhammad (az-Zuhayr), deputy chairman of the board of directors and managing director of the Saudi Development Fund. The aim of the visit of the managing director of the Saudi Development Fund falls within the framework of the signing of a loan agreement with the government.

The signing ceremony took place at the [name indistinct] on Sunday 11 March 1984 in the presence of the head of state, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, shortly before his departure for Gabon. This interest-free loan granted to our country by the Saudi fund involves the sum of 35 million rials or $10 million, that is, about 245 million sylis. It is to be used in financing the first phase of the construction of the 303-km Bikebi-Zerekoure road.

It is worth noting that a sum of $20 million, that is, 490 million sylis, has already been approved for the second phase of this project. Also, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has loaned a sum of 39 million rials, about 273 million sylis, for the financing of other development projects in the country.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Prime Minister Saude Maria Fired for 'Ambition'

LD122226 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] In the first official explanation of the reasons for the dismissal last Saturday of Prime Minister Victor Saude Maria, President Jaoa Bernardo Vieira of Guinea-Bissau declared today that it was the ambition shown by the prime minister that led the Council of the Revolution to remove him from his post.

Speaking in the locality of Catio in the south of the country, the president and secretary general of the PAIGC recalled that some former comrades of struggle had been removed from their posts, some for misappropriation of funds and others for showing unbounded political ambition. The president stressed that the struggle never stops and that as far as he is concerned the interests of the people are paramount.

The dismissed prime minister still retains the posts of vice-president of the Council of the Revolution and member of the Political Bureau of the PAIGC.

IVORY COAST

Regional Strife Continues To Prevent OAU Unity

AB101430 Abidjan IVOIRE DIMANCHE in French 11 Mar 84 p 19

[Jerome Carlos editorial: "OAU: Avoiding the Cauldron"]

[Text] The OAU is leaking at every seam. In continues to be a ship in distress, without compass and leadership in the open sea of a continent threatened, torn, and shaken by the swells of persistent crises.

The key to the Chadian problem is in Tripoli and Paris, rather than in Addis Ababa. The failure of the reconciliation meeting on Chad last January demonstrates clearly that the continental organization will remain, as far as this issue is concerned, merely a suitable reference point and the fifth wheel of the cart. The masters of war and peace in Chad, Tripoli, and Paris who have troops in the field do not need the OAU, either in the current diplomatic negotiations or in the approaches to a solution, such as the one recently proposed — denied or not — for a "third man."

The Western Sahara has met with the same fate: The ad hoc committee charged with implementing the practical modalities to hold referendum in that part of Africa has failed. The only positive achievement of the OAU in this issue has been the allocation — contested and questioned — of a membership seat to the SDAR. The initiative was considered ill-timed and clumsy. It caused so much storm that it almost engulfed the OAU itself. It was truly a disaster.

In spite of that gloomy picture, one can still remember — though vaguely — some quite commendable achievements which have marked the history of the organization despite the current setbacks. First, we have the African Cultural Charter adopted in 1976 in Port Louis (Mauritius). It is little known by the general public. It is a collection of ideas, principles and general intentions designed to help promote cultural development in Africa. But what is a cultural charter worth if it is aimed at the cultural satisfaction of an elite? Of what use is it if it is meant for the silence of libraries or the dust of documentation centers?

Then, we have the Lagos Plan of Action. When it was signed, it was greeted as the most intelligent and most dynamic strategy that would give Africa the basis for a strong and independent economic development in a world of rapid changes. All has already been said on this fine document. What remains to be done is to get from the document concrete results that will make it possible for us to take charge of ourselves, build and manage our existing and promising socioeconomic solidarities at the level of an entire continent. But the OAU must first of all solve the problem of finances if, in the long run, it wants to avoid being paralyzed and asphyxiated. Few member states now pay up their contributions. Very soon it will be the turn of the civil servants at the OAU Secretariat in Addis Ababa, whose salaries cannot be paid. This is an indication of a crisis that could have serious consequencies. Then, what hope is there for the OAU in the perspective of its 20th summit scheduled for next July in Conakry?

One can expect a last-minute outburst of goodwill like last year in Addis Ababa. In that case, the fear of a cauldron will dictate the desire for preservation, thanks to which the organization could be saved from dislocation and death. But for how long shall we continue to play this game?

One can also think of short-sightedness, the refusal to accept what is evident, a kind of burying one's head in the sand. Some would expect miracles from an irremediably compromising situation or a cure by intensive therapeutic treatment on an inert body. No one should be deceived: Reviving a dead body is a fruitless venture.

MALI

SWAPO, ANC Representatives Give Press Conference

AB110916 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] The visiting SWAPO representative who has been in Mali since Saturday gave a press conference this morning at the National School of Administration. The ANC representative also gave a press conference yesterday morning at the same venue. The delegations of these two southern African liberation movements, which have been touring West Africa, will leave Bamako next Monday for Dakar.

Second Stage of Development Project To Begin

AB121440 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] The second phase of the Southern Mali Development Project will begin soon with an amount of 8 billion Malian francs. This is contained in a convention signed by the minister of foreign affairs, Alioune Blondin Beye, and the director of the French Central Fund for Economic Cooperation.

NIGER

Kountche on Fight Against Misappropriation of Funds

AB122200 Paris AFP in English 1813 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Niamey, March 12 (AFP) — Niger head of state General Seyni Kountche has announced a stepping up in the fight against the misappropriation of public funds, which he said had shown a recent resurgence. Gen Kountche here yesterday announced the creation of a special inspection bureau, at Finance Ministry level, to check on the use of public funds, whether in state corporations or public administration. He told departmental and district financial chiefs to put their expertise to use in fighting the problem. Gen Kountche also announced increased penalties for such corruption, up to and including the seizure of all an offender's property.

An authoritative source gave as a recent example the embezzling of 89 million CFA francs (about 220,000 dollars), a large sum in a poor country like Niger, by a sub-prefect in the Department of Zinder.

NIGERIA

Idiagbon Cautions Army on 'Rumor-Mongering'

AB130842 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, has warned officers and men of the Nigerian Army to desist from rumor-mongering which could tarnish the image of the Army. Addressing officers and men of the 22d Armored Brigade in Ilorin, Kwara State, Brig Idiagbon urged the soldiers to cooperate with the Federal Government, pointing out that the present administration would not be moved by any sectional or tribal interests. The chief of staff disclosed that plans were under way by the Army to embark on a vigorous training of its officers and men and that the ministry will be adequately equipped to meet with emergency situations. He said the chief of army staff, Major General Ibrahim Babangida, was compiling a list of problems facing the army with a view to finding solutions to them.

Buhari Receives Departing Vatican Envoy 9 Mar

AB101016 Lagos NAN in English 0940 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, Mar. 9 (NAN) — The Roman Catholic Church is behind the Federal Military Government in its campaign against immorality, the outgoing Vatican ambassador to Nigeria, Arch bishop Carlos Curis, said in Lagos today.

The ambassador, who has served in Nigeria for 5 years, called on the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, at Dodan Barracks. Archbishop Curis extended the good wishes of Pope John Paul II to the Federal Military Government. Maj Gen Buhari said that Nigeria valued its relations with the Vatican.

Ex-Politicians Seen Viewing Takeover Move Seriously

AB121310 Lagos International Service in English 1130 GMT 12 Mar 84

[From the Press Review]

[Text] The alleged plan by some of the deposed politicians to mobilize mercenary forces to invade the country is discussed by the *NIGERIAN TIDE*. The paper describes the threat as serious, adding that the Federal Military Government should intensify efforts in ensuring tightened security network in the country. Concluding, the *TIDE* calls on all Nigerians to assist the Federal Government in its crusade to unite the nation.

Demonstrators in London Show Support for FMG

AB122210 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Support for the Federal Military Government is remarked in Europe. Yesterday in London, about 400 Nigerians took part in a solidarity demonstration between major streets in the British capital. The demonstrators were accompanied by a [words indistinct] school band. A group which calls itself the Nigerian Solidarity Committee organized the demonstration.

Addressing the demonstrators later, the leader of the group, Mr Arthur Nzeribe, a former senator in the defunct National Assembly, said the committee was formed to promote the image [words indistinct] Federal Government. Yesterday's demonstration was the third of its kind in Britain since the change of government in Nigeria.

The Nigerian National Union in the United Kingdom had earlier held demonstrations in support of the Federal Military Government.

Border Problem With Cameroon Requires Resolution

AB091215 Lagos International Service in English 0930 GMT 9 Mar 84

["Viewpoint"]

[Text] The border problem between Nigeria and Cameroon has its origin in the early years of independence. After decolonization, the borders of the two countries got altered as the result of a plebiscite conducted by the United Nations in February 1961 to determine the wishes of the people of the former British Cameroon. In the plebiscite, the southern half of the British Cameroon joined the former French Cameroon to form what is today known as the Federal Republic of Cameroon. The northern half of that former British Cameroon opted to join Nigeria. Thus, the borders of the two countries went through alteration, but there was no well-defined and internationally recognized demarcation line.

That is the root of the protracted border problem. The problem can only be settled permanently with considerable goodwill on both sides. It cannot be difficult for both nations to determine the geographical extent of the areas which changed allegiance and nationality as a result of the UN plebiscite of 1961. Once this is done, the line of demarcation is determined and so the problem is solved.

This solution may look oversimplified but with [word indistinct], determination, and goodwill on both sides, it will stay. A previous attempt to define the demarcation line between Nigeria and Cameroon in the early seventies aborted mainly because of lack of goodwill. Observers then suspected that the demarcation effort was plotted by the desire of one side to include a suspected oil-rich area in its own territory. Certainly, no country could fold its arms and allow a part of its territory to be annexed or truncated by another nation under the cover of a redemarcation exercise. What is required, therefore, is goodwill and mutual trust to resolve the border issue.

The solution of the problem can no longer be delayed in view of its potential to heighten tension between Nigeria and Cameroon. The two countries nearly went to war in 1981 following the border incident in which Camerooonian gendarmes opened fire and killed five Nigerians in a disputed fishing zone. War was averted because of the magnanimity of Nigeria, whose main concern has been peace and brotherliness among African states. That policy was reechoed by the country's military head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, who made it clear to the delegation from President Paul Biya of Cameroon that Nigeria cherished the good neighborliness between her and Cameroon. Gen Buhari, in the characteristic Nigerian way, pledged that the land and maritime borders of the two countries would be looked into. This, no doubt, is a goodwil! gesture which must be total on both sides in order to resolve once and for all the long-standing border problem between Nigeria and Cameroon.

UPPER VOLTA

Trial of Three Ex-Officials Ends in Acquittal

AB131015 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The trial of Alexandre Zoungrana, Barry Djibrina, and Bela Ouattara, which began on 10 March in Bobo-Dioulasso, ended last night. All three former members of the Military Committee of Recovery for National Progress were acquitted on their charges; but Alexandre Zoungrana, according to a recommendation by the People's Revolutionary Tribunal [TPR], should apologize publicly next 1 May at the Labor Exchange Office for victimizing Upper Voltan workers. Also, the Bobo-Dioulasso TPR clearly pointed out to the three former ministers that their acquittal is not synonymous with absolute innocence because, as the president of the tribunal said, the TPR examined only facts made known to it during the current session. Therefore, if other charges are made against these same accused persons later, they must then appear again before the TPR.

Journalists Reject 'Puppet' Status, Demand 'Respect'

AB121508 Paris AFP in French 1056 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Ouagadougou, 12 March (AFP) — Fed up with being treated as "puppets," Upper Voltan journalists want the government to show "respect" for them and to take measures ensuring "the protection and consideration" due their profession.

During their two-day seminar of reflection in preparation for the international conference on information scheduled for the beginning of April in Ouagadougou, the participants declared on Sunday that they are no longer willing to be considered "puppets," and, at the same time, they condemned the "irresponsible and reactionary" attitude "of certain journalists" who do not "conform with the revolutionary ethics of the profession." They recommended the holding of a general assembly of the workers of the information service to work out the framework of appropriate organizations for the defense of their moral interests.

Believing that the Upper Voltan Government should make information a national priority, the participants asked for the adoption of a master plan for equiping the information services in order to ensure a coherent development of mass communication.

They finally asked the National Council of the Revoution (CNR — supreme executive organ) and the government to ban in Upper Volta "all pornographic and racist literature and press that constitute elements of cultural and moral alienation for the people of Upper Volta."

ANGOLA

Foreign Ministry: Namibia Talks Require UN Framework

MB130636 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Statement issued by the Foreign Ministry in Luanda — date not given]

[Text] According to various international news media, the South African foreign minister has said that his government is ready to participate in a conference with all parties involved in the Namibian conflict with the sole aim of achieving peace. Representatives of the Angolan Government would be included as participants in such a conference.

It is worth stressing here that the parties involved in the Namibian conflict are SWAPO and South Africa, and not the People's Republic of Angola. Accordingly, a conference on Namibia would only make sense if it is held under the auspices of the UN secretary general with a view of studying and establishing the modalities for the implementation of Resolution 435/78 of the UN Security Council without introducing any elements alien to its content.

As the People's Republic of Angola is one of the frontline states, its possible participation in such a conference could only take place within that [word indistinct] framework and as an observer — a position which has already been taken during the Geneva Conference in January 1981. Responsibility for the failure of that conference lies squarely at the door of the Pretoria regime.

President dos Santos Reportedly To Visit Cuba

LD130021 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese
0000 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] We heard about an hour ago that President Jose Eduardo dos Santos is to pay a visit to Cuba. The news is not yet official but diplomatic circles in Havana regard the visit as certain.

The trip to Cuba by the leader of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola may be connected with the possible withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angolan territory following the recent Lusaka agreement between Luanda and Pretoria.

Defense Minister's Speech Closes Party Seminar

MB120936 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0700 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Text] The methodological meeting of the coordinators of the party commissions associated with political bodies and the coordinators of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] party cells ended in Luanda last night with a ceremony conducted by Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, minister of defense. The meeting analyzed the activity report on the preparatory phase of party growth within FAPLA. It verified that minimum conditions exist to begin recruiting new members of the party within the Armed Forces.

This meeting conveyed the participants' practical suggestions for promoting the party's growth in the FAPLA and on several experiments regarding control conditons in the MPLA-Labor Party, the Armed Forces, and the USSR Armed Forces. To conclude the ceremony, Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale made the following speech:

[Begin recording] Comrades, you have been meeting for 3 days. You have studied the tasks of political work and the structures of the defense and security bodies. Naturally, you have paid heed to the superior orientations which guide the party's associated political conditions, its tasks, its objectives, and its running. You have also studied the regulation which perfectly and clearly defines the tasks of the above-mentioned commission, and have also gained some knowledge of the running of the party's associated commissions with the USSR Armed Forces, within the Central Control Commision of the MPLA-Labor Party and the MPLA-Labor Party's Organization Department.

Comrades, official comrades, and participating comrades: The debates which have taken place here, throughout the seminar which I have the honor to close, are the basis for the reinforcement and strengthening of the party's leading role in the forces for defense and security, in the political vigilance for the defense of the revolution. They are, therefore, without a doubt, one of the points which the participants to this seminar have studied.

We are convinced that, upon leaving this seminar which ends today, the comrades will have been further enlightened on the principles guiding the political work and methods at hand in the great task which is delegated to us by the party — that is, the growth of the party within the defense and security bodies.

This task must be carried out by the coordinators of the party commission associated with the defense and security bodies and by the party's grassroots bodies within the Armed Forces in order to fit all combatants within a political framework, thus guaranteeing a high degree of political and ideological awareness of the part of the defense and security members. Several gaps have been filled which often prevented us from carrying out the concrete task of building the party's grassroots structures within the military units, duties, and all working areas of the defense and security bodies.

Participating comrades in this first seminar, the degrading political-military situation in our country, provoked by the South African invasion and the counterrevolutionary activity of the puppet gangs, demands the total participation of all levels. The participation of all of us will only be possible if based on the political work orientations outlined by our party and the enlightening of the combatants, the workers, and our people on the objectives we intend to attain through the defense of our revolution.

I must point out, once again, that we find ourselves in a period of fighting against the puppet gangs paid by the international imperialism. This requires greater dynamic activity, sacrifices, and abnegation on the part of the party's grassroots structures and members, in order to constantly and permanently strengthen the political and ideological awareness of the combatants in the front line's first rank, as well as those who keep the rearguard, and to always explain the causes of this war imposed upon us by the enemies of our revolution.

Finally, an important question which the political workers should not let pass unnoticed — the sensitizing work done with the youths who have recently integrated our Armed Forces. Comrades, you know that we still face many difficulties in creating living conditions for our troops and that sometimes this negatively affects the youths who have massively integrated our Armed Forces, determined to defend the conquests already achieved by the revolution. At the present stage of our revolution it is essential to intensify the strengthening work done by the party's grassroots structures within the Armed Forces so as to guarantee the political, moral, and combative capacity of our troops as a condition for the existence of a honest party and military discipline among the combatants.

To conclude, I would like to wish all participants success in carrying out the resolutions which have resulted from this so very important seminar. I am certain that in the second seminar we will wind up with a positive appraisal. [end recording]

RSA Urged To Discuss Cease-Fire With SWAPO

MB121612 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Station commentary: "Standing Firm on Principles"]

[Text] Ever since its independence on 11 November 1975, the People's Republic of Angola has been following a policy based on coherence of principles in all fields. Angola follows this stand in the community of nations. Regardless of the circumstances, Angola has remained loyal to the policy of solidarity with all peoples who, like us, aspire to independence and freedom. The Angolan people have been paying a heavy price for their principles of noble and militant solidarity and support for the national liberation movement, particularly in southern Africa. Such principles are not open for negotiation. Nor are they open for discussion; that is, the principles that we have always defended cannot be brought to the negotiating table, whoever the parties may be.

Today, Angola is fully at ease, so that it can hold its head high throughout the world. Nobody can accuse us of having betrayed principles because of momentary conveniences. [words indistinct] the worst enemy [words indistinct] comes with promises of peace. We cannot avoid listening to it. We must try to assess its new intentions. It is logical for the enemy to do so. The enemy has realized that force can not lead it anywhere. It recognized its defeat and then expressed its interest in negotiations. This was a unilateral decision of its own. Thus, when we spoke to the racists it was to force the unconditional withdrawal of their troops from a part of the national territory. It was also a contribution that was made so that the people of Namibia could be free and independent. It is now up to South Africa to substantiate its alleged good intentions by discussing a cease-fire with SWAPO. The truth is that the war is between the people of Namibia and the racist oppressor. The time has also come for the racists to realize that they can no longer suffocate by force the determination of a people who want to be the masters of their own destiny. Practically alone, we have paid and continue to contribute solidarity to those fraternal people at war. It has been a heavy contribution in blood and sacrifice, and now at the negotiating table we are making an additional contribution to the same objective. It is necessary that the fraternal people of Namibia may be free. We are doing so while strictly adhering to the principles that have always guided our existence in the world, and without (?ambiguity) or making compromises based on conditions that amount to the betrayal of the peoples by serving imperialism. We did not discuss with South Africa any cease-fire for the Namibian territory. This will have to be done by the South Africans with the people of Namibian.

As recently recalled by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, after the Angolan contribution it will be necessary to have parallel movement by the parties directly involved in the Namibian armed conflict, that is, the South African Government and SWAPO, for the conclusion of a cease-fire accord which will enable the United Nations to begin the implementation of Resolution 435. Moreover, as also stated by the supreme leader of the Angolan revolution, it is now necessary for Pretoria to effectively show its clear intention to totally abandon its bellicose and destabilizing policy in southern Africa. Unless this honest contribution is made, like the one we made for the solution of the problem, it will have been in vain.

In any event, the world will never be able to accuse us of not acting in good faith, thus making another positive contribution to the elimination of the focus of tension on this part of our continent, without violating principles.

Today, as always, we will stand by the combatant people of Namibia until their total and complete victory against the racist and colonialist enemy. As for ourselves — it is better to be understood at once — we will be more vigilant than ever before in this journey for peace in southern Africa. In this year of defense and production we shall be determined in all fronts of the struggle and certain of victory.

UNITA Communique Details 21-26 Feb Actions

MB130818 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Communique issued by Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila, chief of the General Staff, at UNITA Command Headquarters in Angola on 26 February]

[Text] In Malanje Province at about 1640 on 21 February, our forces attacked a 10-truck column on the (Caculama)-Quela road [illegible] was proceeding from Malanje to Lunda. In the battle, which lasted 50 minutes, seven trucks and three Yamaha-50 motorbikes were destroyed. A driver named Joao Antonio Ribeiro, a Portuguese national, was taken prisoner. At about 0800 on 22 February an enemy company which was pursuing our forces in (Massala Quiangombe) close to the Samba Caju tarred road was repulsed after a 15-minute firefight in which 25 enemy soldiers were killed. One 60-mm mortar, one RPG-7, four AK-47's, one G-3, one (?MR) and various rounds of ammunition were seized.

In Lunda Province on 24 February, a reconnaissance helicopter with Cuban crewmen which was overflying the captives taken at Kafunfo was shot down by our antiaircraft battery. It crashed, killing its occupants. Any attack against this column will lead to the death of the captives, for UNITA has already warned all foreigners to leave the war zones, since the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] are incapable of giving them security.

In Huambo Province on 22 February, an explosive was placed at 5 October Street and another one was placed inside the Imperio bar close to (Afrique) Hotel. The first explosive went off at 1800, while games were being held for the Huambo Cup. This caused confusion, forcing the Huambo radio station to interrupt its transmission. The second explosive went off when people were dining. It damaged the windows and doors of the bar and a neighboring house. On both occasions a number of FAPLA troops and policemen were either killed or wounded. On 24 February at 1030, a bomb exploded at the general workshops of the Benguela railroad, destroying some machines. At 1100 on the same day, two bombs went off simultaneously at the police station at Benfica residential area and at the house of a FAPLA captain at Huambo town center.

On the same day our forces attacked the (Calilongue) residential area committee, killing four People's Vigilante Brigade agents and wounding a number of others. At about 0535 on 22 February, our forces repulsed the enemy from Santarem on the Bailundo-Bela Vista road, killing 16 members of the People's Defense Organization. On 25 February at 0830 a train detonated an anti-locomotive mine planted on the (Santo Amaro-Icambuiu) railroad, partially destroying the locomotive and about 30 meters of track. In Huambo Province at about 1150, on 24 February, a group of our forces destroyed an electricity cabin between Benfica and (Frederico) residential areas in Huambo town. It was totally destroyed.

In Benguela Province, at about 0100 on 22 February, our forces stormed the Benguela railroad station of (Chimboa), situated between Cubal and Ganda. Our forces killed 15 enemy soldiers, destroyed 1 railway and 1 road bridge, captured 1 (Motorola) radio, damaged 24 rails and 2 points of the Benguela railroad. On 25 February an enemy group from Huambo, Caala, Longonjo, and (Quipoio), which intended to destroy our base was attacked at 0815 and was forced to withdraw, leaving behind 26 dead colleagues and taking with them a number of wounded. Among the dead was the commander of Battalion 55 of 39th Brigade, (Joao Batista Samacala). A FAPLA soldier, 30 AKM's, 1 G-3, 24 magazines for AK's, 6 magazines for G-3's, several rounds of ammunition, and some military equipment were captured.

In Cuanza Norte Province, at 0545 on 24 February, the enemy post at Munenga, 30 km from Dondo was attacked. After a 90-minute firefight the enemy was repelled, suffering 47 casualties. Our forces found a West German couple at the scene. They are (Evenuantel Kruk), aged 79, and his wife (Klelina Lina Tevesta), aged 69. This couple had been abandoned in the town, which shows the humanitarian feelings of FAPLA soldiers.

In Cuando Cubango Province on 24 February, our forces attacked the enemy base at Sobi, a few kilometers from Cuito-Cuanavale. Enemy forces from the 16th Brigade in Cuito-Cuanavale attempted to recapture the base; however, they were defeated. They abandoned one T-55 tank, one BRDM-2, one BTR, and three vehicles. The enemy suffered heavy casualties.

In Moxico Province on 26 February our forces captured the enemy base at Canage on the Luena-Lucusse Road. A 40-meter long and 6-meter wide bridge was totally destroyed. Our forces captured 35 small weapons, ammunition, and military equipment.

From 22 February to 26 February the enemy suffered 198 casualties [baixas] and a number of wounded. A total of seven Cubans were killed. Our forces suffered 16 casualties, 50 wounded, and 7 missing.

The struggle will triumph. United we shall win.

UNITA Headquarters on 26 February 1984, year of the anti-Cuban patriotic front.

[Signed] Brigadier Demostenes Amos Chilingutila, chief of General Staff.

LESOTHO

Prime Minister Jonathan Meets With New British Envoy

MB091235 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 9 Mar 84

[Text] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, has told the incoming British high commissioner to Lesotho that the present diplomatic intiatives for peace in the region have to be assessed very carefully.

The prime minister was briefing the high commissioner, His Excellency Mr P.E. Rosling, yesterday when he had paid a courtesy call after presenting letters of credence to His Majesty King Moshoeshoe II at the Royal Palace. Dr Jonathan said he himself is a great believer in dialogue and that he was the first black prime minister to meet a South African prime minister when he met the late Hendrik Verwoerd. He had subsequently met the late John Vorster, and the present South African prime minister, P.W. Botha. Dr Jonathan said that his purpose was to try to work for peaceful coexistance between Lesotho and South Africa. Unfortunately, Dr Jonathan said, he could not strike common ground with the South African prime ministers because of the apartheid policy, which was a barrier to genuine peace in the region.

Dr Jonathan told the British high commissioner that genuine peace could not be realized as long as apartheid was not dismantled. Dr Jonathan said, however, that the present peace talks were moving in the right direction, but added that they would be more rewarding if the South African Government also talks to the black people of South Africa and Namibia, such as Nelson Mandela, Sam Nujoma, and Oliver Tambo, who are popular leaders.

The prime minister said that the shortcoming of the present talks arose out of the fact that South Africa does not want to discuss apartheid and that it wrongly believed that peace could exist within the framework of the system.

Concluding his briefing, Dr Jonathan associated himself with the words of welcome extended to Mr Rosling by his majesty. He told the high commissioner that all British commissioners coming to Lesotho are received with the same hope and optimism as that which Sir Philip Woodhouse was received in Thaba Bosiu in the days of old.

Jonathan Appeals to 'Neighbors' To Prevent Attacks

MB111236 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] The prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, said that Lesotho has never invaded any country or perpetrated any acts of aggression against it. In a statement over Radio Lesotho, the prime minister said on the contrary Lesotho has always been on the defending side. She has always been the victim, as happened recently in December 1982. However, the prime minister said that the current diplomatic initiatives for peace in the southern African region were a move which came after Lesotho had immediately, after independence in 1966, taken steps calculated to ensure peace in this region. Dr Jonathan said it was for this reason that Lesotho has in the past immediately after independence made the undertaking that she would not allow the use of her territory as a springboard for attacks against any neighboring state. In the same breath, Dr Jonathan said Lesotho appealed to her neighbors to reciprocate by not allowing their territories to be used as springboards for attacks against her. The prime minister pointed out that Lesotho has honored her undertaking to the fullest and that she would continue to do so in the future. Dr Jonathan said Lesotho is again appealing to all her neighbors to do likewise and ensure a commitment to the principle of peace to which she adhered so faithfully.

The prime minister said: It is difficult if not impossible to make us strangers to the concepts of peace which we Basotho have championed so consistently. The prime minister concluded by saying that to us peace is a matter of nations, not only a creed, but is also a lifestyle summarized in a tradition greeting "khotso," which means peace, which incites every member of our society to agree that peace prevails among us. [sentence as heard]

MOZAMBIQUE

Branco: RSA Payment for Cahora Bassa 'Falls Short'

MB121001 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Antonio Branco, the minister of industry and power, leaves the capital today for the South African city of Cape Town, where there will be talks on Cahora Bassa involving Mozambique, Portugal, and Republic of South Africa delegations on Tuesday and Wednesday.

In the talks, according to Antonio Branco, Mozambique will present its position that the Cahora Bassa dam is on Mozambique territory and therefore must serve the country's economy. Mozambique's position will mean the reformulation of earlier principles on the functioning of Cahora Bassa so as to ensure that the project brings benefits and advantages to the three interested parties, namely Mozambique, Portugal, and South Africa.

The industry and power minister said that the 40-50 million rand paid by South Africa for power when Cahora Bassa is operating falls short of covering the expenses of the project. The price at which the power is sold does not ensure the payment of all operation and maintenance expenses of the project. The current tariff does not permit the Portuguese state to cease spending more money in order to repay its loan, added Minister Antonio Branco. He explained that the status quo was the main cause for the deficit situation of Cahora Bassa. He stressed that sabotage by the armed bandits to the powerlines to South Africa was not the main reason for the project's deficit but only an aggravating factor.

Chissano Meets French Delegates; Other Talks Set

MB130859 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Joaquim Chissano, member of the People's Assembly Standing Commission and minister of foreign affairs, this afternoon received the delegation of French senators which has been in Maputo since this morning for talks with Mozambique authorities. Among other issues, the French delegation intends to study the possibility of developing relations between France and Mozambique.

Talks with a People's Assembly delegation are scheduled for tomorrow morning. The People's Assembly delegation is headed by Jose Luis Cabaco, minister of information and People's Assembly deputy. The delegation of French senators is headed by Jean Lecanuet, chairman of the Commission for Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Armed Forces.

Chissano Meets Brazil's Foreign Affairs Delegate

MB130908 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Joaquim Chissano, foreign minister, received career diplomat Jose Viegas Filho, a representative of the Brazilian foreign minister, in Maputo yesterday. The two sides discussed issues relating to bilateral cooperation and the international situation, particularly in southern Africa.

Port, Railroad Group To Meet With RSA Counterparts

MB121830 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Ferreira Mendes, the national director of Mozambique ports and railroad, leaves for Johannesburg today to hold talks with customers of the Mozambique railroad and Maputo harbor. He will be accompanied by (Elidio Diniz), director of Maputo harbor; (Abdullah Ismael), deputy director for trade of Maputo harbor; (Josias Pondeca), financial director of the southern region of the Mozambique railroad; and (Guedes Evaristo), trade representative of the Mozambique ports and railroad in Johannesburg. While Ferreira Mendes holds talks with current and future customers of the Maputo harbor, part of the Mozambique delegation will meet with representatives of the South African railroads. The talks will take place the day after tomorrow.

NAMIBIA

Nujoma Cites Conditions for Conference With RSA

MB121533 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The president of SWAPO, Sam Nujoma, says his organization will accept South Africa's call for a regional conference, but only if the conference focuses on South-West Africa and excludes discussion on Angola. Speaking to newsmen in Lusaka, Nujoma said SWAPO would also agree to members of South-West Africa's multiparty conference attending the talks. He said that if South Africa decided to include those members in the conference, then SWAPO would not object.

Nujoma said SWAPO was prepared to meet South Africa's representatives anywhere to hold talks. However, he suggested that such a conference should be held in Geneva, New York, or the Zambian capital, Lusaka.

South Africa's minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said earlier in a statement that South Africa was willing to participate in a conference of all those parties involved in the present conflict in South-West Africa. Mr Botha identified the parties as the South African Government, the MPLA government, UNITA in Angola, the multiparty conference of South-West Africa, and SWAPO. He said South Africa was willing to participate in such a conference without any preconditions except the realization of peace. Mr Botha said that if the offer was accepted, then the parties could agree on a chairman, date, and venue for such a conference. The South African Government would prefer the conference to be held in an African country.

New Peace Plan To Supplant UN Resolution Depicted

MB111113 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 11 Mar 84 p 1

[By Tony Weaver]

[Text] Windhoek — The United Nations blueprint for South West African independence, Resolution 435, could be consigned to the dustbin. There are indications that SWAPO and the internal parties may find their own way to independence — which would effectively exclude the UN from the process.

The United States is known to be deeply concerned about any scenario for Namibian independence which might undermine 435 — basically because a conservative U.S. Administration needs the diplomatic triumph of a Cuban pull-out of Angola to sell the peace initiative back home. A peace plan which sidesteps 435 will also bypass the need for a Cuban withdrawal.

The modified version of Resolution 435 will have all the trappings of the UN resolution, but basic elements of the original, six-year-old plan will be missing.

Key to the new direction in which thinking in the territory — and in certain African capitals — is moving is the belief that despite what appears to be an intensification of the 17-year-old bush war, its end is actually in sight. This would mean that SWAPO, denied bases in southern Angola and with the northern border of SWA effectively sealed off, will sooner or later have to abandon its military strategy and resort to face-to-face bargaining with the internal parties.

Although SWAPO has sent more than 800 fighters into northern and eastern Namibia, top military sources believe it is only a matter of time before the infiltrators are hunted down. This will leave SWAPO without a military presence worth talking of in Namibia — thus forcing it to seek political options for independence.

And it was learned from top sources in Windhoek this week that the peace initiative could lead to a key adaptation in one of the basic elements of the 435 scenario. The United Nations Transition Assistance Group [UNTAG] — a peace-keeping force to monitor a cease-fire — would be replaced by an African army composed of soldiers from various African states, possibly Zaire, Mozambique, Botswana, Zambia, and Malawi.

The release of Mr Toivo ja Toivo has given a massive propaganda boost to SWAPO inside Namibia and could persuade the executive of the party in the country to press the exile wing to enter into full elections as soon as possible. It is believed that this issue will be a major point for discussion between Mr Sam Nujoma, Mr ja Toivo and top SWAPO leaders inside Namibia in Lusaka this weekend. It is known that approaches are already being made to SWAPO to consider the option of accepting non-UN elections soon.

The first of the top leadership began to show signs of bending this week. Miss Lucia Hamutenya, sister of Mr Nujoma's righthand man, Mr Hidipo Hamutenya, slipped back into the country recently. Miss Hamutenya is generally believed to be the "eyes and ears" of Mr Hamutenya.

Another indication of the speed with which things are moving in the battle-weary territory was the call this week by the Council of Churches in Namibia [CCN] for an "urgent" cease-fire. The CCN represents more than 80 percent of the people of the territory, and its statement amounts to a direct plea to SWAPO to lay down arms. The statement is all the more significant since the CCN is generally regarded as containing a high proportion of SWAPO sympathizers.

The Multi-Party Conference [MPC], some observers believe, could win as much as 40 percent of the total vote against a SWAPO weakened by slackening popular support. But others see this as wishful thinking. Although conceding that an MPC election front could gain a slice of the vote which could endanger an absolute SWAPO majority, it does not see itself seriously challenging SWAPO's position as the "popular movement."

The key to the new game plan is the forcing of SWAPO into an imposed cease-fire and the acceptance by black African states of their responsibility in helping to monitor elections through the provision of a "multi-national" African force.

There is little doubt in the minds of most observers that South Africa is at last beginning to think seriously about pulling out of Namibia. The new buzzwords are "damage control" and "not losing face."

If SWAPO can be persuaded or forced into accepting a non-435 independence package, there will be little the UN can do about it.

And at the same time it appears that the "Cuban issue" will be allowed to slip off the agenda. The original demand for "total Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola" will be quietly modified so that only a small proportion of "combat troops" have to leave.

Police Report 2 SWAPO Terrorists Killed Near Omitara

MB122008 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Two SWAPO terrorists have been shot dead near Omitara, about 130 km northeast of Windhoek. A spokesman for the South-West Africa Police said in Windhoek that the terrorists had been traced in a follow-up operation by the security forces. They were apparently members of a group of 14 terrorists that were traced near the Botswana border last week. Seven members of the group have so far been shot dead. The follow-up operation is continuing.

Multiparty Conference, Van Niekerk Begin Talks

MB130833 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The new leader of the colored Labor Party of South-West Africa/Namibia, Mr Dawid Bezuidenhout, says the latest peace talks between South Africa and Angola must be welcomed because they offered an opportunity to end bloodshed. Addressing the congress of the Labor Party in Windhoek, Mr Bezuidenhout said the latest diplomatic developments also created hope for peace and independence for South-West Africa/Namibia. He announced that the Labor Party would apply to join the multiparty conference on the future of the territory. He said he would work for reconciliation among South-West African colored leaders and for better relations among the people of the territory as a whole. Mr Bezuidenhout takes over the leadership of the Labor Party from Mr Barney Barnes.

A report from Windhoek says representatives of the multiparty conference have begun talks with the administrator general of South-West Africa, Dr Wille van Niekerk. The talks have come in the wake of an offer by the South African Government to all those involved in the conflict in South-West Africa/Namibia and Angola to take part in a conference. The parties named were the South African Government, the MPLA/Labor government, and the UNITA movement of Angola, the multiparty conference of South-West Africa/Namibia, and SWAPO.

SWAPO Radio Rejects 'Time-Wasting Negotiations'

MB122030 Lusaka Voice of Namibia in English 1830 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Commentary: "Racist South Africa's Stand on Civilians in Namibia"]

[Excerpts] The brutal (?carnage) by the racist bandits perpetrated on the defenseless civilians in Namibia has gathered bloodier momentum, but is indicating that the regime has devised another scheme of mass intimidation by maiming, murdering, and detaining people whose relatives are involved in the true liberation struggle.

Today, while the racist regime of Pretoria is refusing to implement UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978, it manipulates the Western proposal for a settlement in Namibia for a right. [as heard] By (?interfering) in this dangerous exercise, to destroy self-determination, integrity, and sovereignty of our country, South Africa has violated all previous efforts made by the United Nations on the independence question of Namibia.

This has laid clear all evidence that the racist Pretoria regime never intended to allow implementation of the UN plan for fair and free elections under the UN supervision and control. Neither has it been ready to allow the will and true political aspirations of the Namibian people to decide their own future, but instead it is vicious to put its own puppets in power. As racist Prime Minister Botha put it before his elevation in 1978, South Africa will not tolerate a SWAPO-led government on the northern bank of the Orange River. (?However), in the current repression in an atmosphere deliberately hatched to provoke SWAPO in retaliation that was devised to create a reason for discrediting the liberation movement, oppressed people of Namibia remain undaunted in their determination to prosecute the struggle for liberty. Mass support for the true and just war for general liberation is continuously being demonstrated.

The independence question of Namibia has now reached a stage at which a political solution appears to have fallen apart, and therefore it will (?be) a full-blooded battle between the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO, the vanguard movement of the revolution, and the desperate enemy, racist South Africa. The issue is no longer an international one, but it has become fully domestic, where all the Namibians are required to back our demands with a gun. As far as SWAPO is concerned, the answer to the independence and freedom of our country does not lay in time-wasting negotiations, but will be the barrel of a gun. We shall evict and expose the naked crimes commited by racist South Africa in Namibia, and at the same time we shall disengage her out of our beloved soil by force of arms. The struggle waged by the oppressed people of Namibia against the ruthless racist regime of Pretoria is (?set) and must be carried on until our country is totally liberated once and for all.

The struggle continues. Victory is on our side.

SOUTH AFRICA

Kaunda Ready To Host Botha, Frontline States Summit

MB131014 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0943 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Johannesburg, March 13, SAPA — President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia says he is willing to host a summit meeting of South Africa's prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and the heads of all the frontline states in Lusaka. The offer was made in wide-ranging discussion with Mr Hugh Murray, publisher of the prestige quarterly magazine, *LEADERSHIP SA*, in Lusaka on Wednesday last week.

President Kaunda told *LEADERSHIP SA* that he has "no doubt at all about the value of such a summit." "Prime Minister Botha would then come to know not only the thinking of those leaders he has met, such as myself and the prime ministers of Lesotho and Swaziland, but the thoughts of President Masire, President Nyerere, President dos Santos, and Prime Minister Mugabe, who he has not. And I am sure that the impact on him will be more than if he met with one person at a time. That the time has come for this meeting, I am quite sure," President Kaunda said.

Mr Murray said he and the chairman of *LEADERSHIP SA*'s editorial board, Mr Rob Abrahamson, had taken the unpredecented step of releasing the news ahead of publication because of its immediate relevance. The prepublication has also been cleared with President Kaunda's office.

Asked about arrangements for the meeting, Dr Kaunda said it would be necessary for the heads of the frontline states to initiate the invitation. "That means the heads must discuss this in their own caucus and decide how to go about it."

The president's special assistant, Mr Milimo Punabantu, who was present at the interview, told *LEADERSHIP SA* it would be of great assistance if a request for such a meeting were motivated from the South African side.

This news comes three days before the historic signing by Mr Botha and President Machel of Mozambique of a nonaggression pact. The treaty is to be signed at Komatipoort on Friday.

Questioned further on the merits of a summit, Dr Kaunda told Mr Murray: "It cuts across the problems of suspicions and so on when discussion are held...what I am saying is that a meeting of this type would be good. But we must look at how this could be done. That must be examined very carefully." Asked whether he would host the meeting, he replied: "Certainly, I would. I would be quite happy."

President Kaunda warned, however, of the danger of euphoria in the current political climate. South Africa should beware of thinking that because of the current round of meetings in southern Africa "all was suddenly well." "In this climate the cardinal point might be forgotten. The problem is not Mozambique, it is not Zambia, it is not Angola or even SWAPO. The problem is the philosophy of apartheid."

The full two-hour interview will appear in the autumn issue of *LEADERSHIP SA*, scheduled for publication later this month.

Trilateral Cahora Bassa Talks Resume in Cape Town

MB121834 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The first of another round of talks between South Africa and Portugal on the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric scheme in Mozambique has begun in Cape Town. This afternoon's preliminary talks were between the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Louis Nel, and the Portuguese delegation, led by the country's deputy minister of finance, Mr Antonio de Almeida. These discussions will be followed by trilateral talks tomorrow, when a Mozambican delegation will also take part. The leader of the Mozambican group is the country's minister of mineral and energy affairs [title as heard], Mr Antonio Branco, who is expected with his delegation in Cape Town tonight. The Mozambican team will also hold preliminary talks with Mr Nel tomorrow.

ANC Claims Responsibility for Ermelo Explosion

MB131331 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The ANC has claimed responsibility for the Ermelo bombing at the weekend. A statement issued in Lusaka says the attack was carried out by the military wing of the ANC, Mkhonto we Sizwe. The statement says the attack was carried out by units of Mkhonto we Sizwe based inside the country. South African police have said that suspected saboteurs were responsible for the series of explosions in the eastern Transvaal town that destroyed five fuel storage tanks and a road tanker.

Koeberg Power Station in Final Licensing Stage

MB130851 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] South Africa's first nuclear power station, Koeberg, has reached the final phase of preparation for the generation of nuclear energy to supply electricity to the Electricity Supply Corporation's [ESCOM] national power network. The minister of minerals and energy affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, and some of his senior officials, including the director general of the department, Mr Sarel du Plessis, paid an official visit to the nuclear power station this morning. It was probably the last ministerial visit to Koeberg before the first of the two nuclear reactors is commissioned.

Our political news staff say, therefore, that it can be accepted that Koeberg has reached the final stage of its licensing, which means that ESCOM must assure the Atomic Energy Corporation that it has met with all the safety regulations. If ESCOM satisfies these safety regulations, then the Atomic Energy Corporation will recommend to the Nuclear Safety Council, an independent body, that a license is granted. Thereafter, the reactor can be put into operation.

It is expected that Koeberg will generate its first power supply to ESCOM by the middle of next month. The energy supply process will then be gradually increased until the reactor is operating at full power by the middle of June.

Police Report 27 Killed in Natal Tribal Warfare

MB121715 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Tribal warfare has erupted in Natal. Police say at least 27 people have been killed in fighting involving more than 2,000 people in the Msinga district of northern Natal. Residents in the area, however, say they think the death toll is closer to 60. Tribal armies of about 1,000 men each from the (Mahombu) and (Majozi) clans are reported to have clashed in fierce battles using pangas, axes, and homemade guns. Police say dozens of weapons have been confiscated and riot control units are still in Msinga. They say it is impossible to pinpoint the cause of the latest outbreak of violence.

Hart Interviewed on Proposed Policy Toward RSA

MB100806 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 10 Mar 84 p 6

[By Richard Walker]

[Text] Senator Gary Hart — sudden pacemaker in the race to challenge President Ronald Reagan for the White House — wants to turn the United States' Africa policy on its head.

As next president, he would tell Pretoria to move quickly to a universal franchise or face strong, across-the-board economic sanctions. He would give South Africa "months...a year or two" to comply.

Senator Hart, whose dashing style is modelled on President J.F. Kennedy, is taking Democratic Party supporters by storm. He was quizzed at length on southern Africa just before the sudden popularity surge that shattered the apparent invincibility of former Vice-President Walter Mondale.

A transcript — now released — of what he told television interviewer Gil Noble suggests that Senator Hart would also:

— Stop insisting that Cuban forces withdraw from Angola as a condition of Namibia independence;

— Switch constructive engagement to the Caribbean and Central America and try to win over Cuba to the West through negotiations, rather than confrontation.

The Reagan adminstration's approach "has been wrong politically and diplomatically...even wrong morally," he told Noble. "I would reverse these policies."

He said he would put some sort of timetable on South Africa, which would require "that government opening up its political process and abandoning apartheid." "If it did not move in that direction in that reasonable time period, then I would be for very strong, across-the-board economic sanctions."

Senator Hart's deadline for "opening the process up and inviting the black majority in , wouldn't be a long one." "I would say in the range of a year or two." Asked to be more precise Senator Hart said the opening up that he envisaged encompassed "the whole political process, voting and participation across the board." He added that "it needn't be done all at once, but just so that progress is being made, step-by-step, in an orderly way and in a timely way — not five or 10 years from now, but in the short term."

Senator Hart also said that getting the Cuban troops out of Angola should be used as part of a bargaining process to try to woo President Fidel Castro away from the Soviets with the offer of American recognition for his government. "I think we ought to be negotiating very strongly with Fidel Castro," he said.

He also contrasted United States policy towards Nicaragua and South Africa and called it hypocritical. "What is the phrase constructive dialogue? I think they ought to use the same approach towards Nicaragua." "We are isolating and conducting a covert war against Nicaragua and yet we are justifying our relationship with South Africa on the ground that only by dealing with them can we get them to move towards a democratic direction." The result was "a total breakdown" in American credibility, he suggested.

Mondale campaigners have accused Senator Hart of switching ground on many issues, including southern Africa. They cite a vote in May 1979 to lift a ban on chrome imports from Rhodesia.

The Hart camp said their man voted 13 times against lifting Rhodesian sanctions. The one exception was to support lifting sanctions once a black majority government was installed.

The co-ordinator of Senator Hart's Mississippi campaign this week tendered his resignation after being criticized for attending an all-white athletics banquet.

Southern African Corn Import Delays Anticipated

MB091400 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 9 Mar 84 "Business Day" Section p 20

[By Simon Willson, Industrial Editor]

[Text] African states using South Africa for their maize imports will have to stand in line as ports try to cope with escalating domestic needs. This was the conclusion reached at yesterday's talks in Johannesburg between SATS [South African Transport Service] and the Maize Board when the daunting logistics of this year's giant maize import requirement were raised.

Officials co-ordinating the operation were told the total requirement needed to meet domestic consumption was 4.2 million tons. This alone would keep South Africa own dockside offloading facilities at close to full stretch before any tonnage of other countries was included.

The 6.5-million tons of expected South African consumption will only be partially offset by the drought-hit crop, leaving a 4.2m-ton shortfall to be met by imports. While SATS officials expect to be able to handle this import requirement, it is not yet committing itself on its ability to handle the import requirements of neighbouring countries.

In recent years Zimbabwe, Zambia and Zaire have all used South African ports to land their maize imports because facilities at Maputo in Mozambique and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania are too inefficient to handle them. Conditions at Maputo and Dar es Salaam have, if anything, worsened in the past 12 months, leaving the three land-locked importing countries more dependent than ever on East London, Cape Town and Durban.

"We don't know for sure yet how much maize the neighbouring countries are going to want to import through South Africa," Mr Jan Mors, assistant director of operations for SA Harbours, said yesterday. "We are going to try and accommodate their requirements as much as possible through East London, but the size of the traffic is still uncertain."

Parties to the talks concluded South Africa's ports would have to handle 350,000 tons of maize a month starting on May 1. This monthly total would be shared out between Durban, which would take 150,000 tons a month; East London, which would handle 100,000 tons; and Cape Town, which would also take 100,000 tons.

Zimbabwe's requirement this year has been estimated at about 500,000 tons. Given that the ports will be operating at close to full stretch to deal with almost double last year's drought-related maize imports, Zimbabwe's requirement could be difficult to meet. The situation for South Africa's three land-locked northern neighbours could be even worse if Zambia and Zaire also chime in with six-digit import requirements. SATS will try to route all maize destined for neighbouring countries through East London because the port has large amounts of rolling stock.

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Meets With 3-Man Soviet Delegation

MB121842 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] His Excellency President Dr Kenneth Kaunda has urged the Soviet Union to find a way of coexisting with NATO powers to avoid a nuclear confrontation. The president said NATO countries and those from the Warsaw Pact should coexist, because they belong to the same world. Dr Kaunda said this when he met a visiting 3-man delegation of the Soviet Union, Kazakhstan Republic, at State House today. He said Zambia and other frontline states are meeting and talking with South Africa on the basis of UN Resolution 435.

The meeting was attended by party Secretary General Humphrey Mulemba and Daniel Lisulo, who is chairman of the Central Committee's Political and Legal Subcommittee.

Mulemba Assesses Regional Talks

MB121706 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] Party Secretary-General Humphrey Mulemba has said that Zambia welcomes any genuine moves that will bring peace and stability to the southern African region. Mr Mulemba said that Zambia was very concerned about the present prevailing problems for southern African (?peace) in Angola and the independence of Namibia. He was speaking when he met a (?three-man) Soviet delegation led by Oleg Semenovich Miroshkhin, who is a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Republic of the Soviet Union.

In reply, Mr Semenovich said his country greatly respects Zambia's role as a frontline state.

UN Urged To Implement Resolution 435 on Namibia

MB121700 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The United Nations has been called upon to take advantage of the latest developments in southern Africa, and move in to secure the implementation of Resolution 435 so that Namibia can be free. Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia made the call this morning when the UN under secretary general, Rafeeuddin Ahmed, and the commissioner for Namibia, Brajesh Mishra, called on him at Cabinet Office. Mr Mundia reiterated Zambia's determination and preparedness to play its part in assuring that Resolution 435 is implemented so that all problems brought about as a result of liberation wars and the influx of refugees could be solved.

Mr Mundia said that while the disengagement of troops by South Africa from Angola was going on, the United Nations should consult the relevant authorities and ensure the implementation of Resolution 435. The two officials were accompanied by Zambia's ambassador to the United Nations and chairman of the Council for Namibia, Paul Lusaka, and the UN Development Program representative, Dusan Dragic.

ZIMBABWE

Muzenda Says Government 'Shocked' by Mass Graves

MB131027 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Text] The deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda, says the discovery of mass graves in Rusape is a shock to the government. Comrade Muzenda was speaking to local and foreign newsmen today after a tour of the graves in Rusape. He appealed to anyone with information of the graves to inform the government, adding that there will be no victimization.

The deputy prime minister said it is important for the government to know how many comrades are buried in the shallow graves. He said massacres committed in Gutu, Momdore, and elsewhere have been recorded. Members of the Zimbabwe National Army and Youth Brigades opened the graves at random, and from the bottom came old (?tattered trousers), skulls, and human remains. The site was used as a shooting range and a command post of the Rhodesian security forces during the liberation war. Comrade Muzenda was accompanied by several cabinet ministers.

Foreign Minister Back From OAU Ministerial Meeting

MB100720 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, returned home last night from Ethiopia, where he attended a 2-week meeting of OAU's Council of Ministers. Comrade Mangwende told newsmen that the Council endorsed a report by the Liberation Committee that Namibia be granted independence and that the system of apartheid in South Africa be dismantled. The minister said the international community should be firm on the Pretoria regime and ask it to stop speaking evasively on the two issues. Comrade Mangwende also said the Council of Ministers' meeting had for the first time addressed itself to the issues of subscription by members. He stated that the meeting discussed ways of dealing with members who failed to meet their financial obligations.

Minister Discloses Embezzlement by District Officers

MB130839 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of local government and town planning, Comrade Enos Chikowore, has disclosed that more than seven district council executive officers have been imprisoned and others are awaiting trial for alleged embezzlement of funds.

Comrade Chikowore told newsmen in Gatooma yesterday that the government has also frozen a number of senior district executive officers' bank accounts for the same reason. He expressed concern at the number of cases of financial irregularities in the district councils, saying the government is determined to bring them to an end.

Comrade Chikowore identified the (Cheziagokwe) district councils as the worst offenders. However, the minister said, since the exposure, more district councils have been performing well and he expressed confidence that the situation will improve.

Kangai Says Country To Reduce Dependence on RSA

MB110445 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 10 Mar 84

[Text] A government minister said Zimbabwe aims to cooperate with Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] member states to reduce dependence on South Africa in the field of transport and other areas. The minister of state responsible for industry and technology, Comrade Kumbirai Kangai, made the remark in a speech read on his behalf by the permanent secretary in the ministry, Dr (Mufaro Hove), when he officially opened a new component [word indistinct] center in Harare yesterday.

Comrade Kangai said the new component unit will earn the country valuable foreign currency through exports to other SADCC countries. The minister also said the government will strive to ensure adequate supplies of motor vehicles, equipment, and spare parts.